

FORTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,
WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OF THE SOCIETY:

JANUARY 20, 1857.

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FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

JANUARY 20, 1857.

Tribute to deceased friends.

In submitting to the general meeting, a brief report of the proceedings of this Society during the year, it becomes a painful duty to record the decease, since the last anniversary, of several of its faithful friends and benefactors.

Among these, though not officially connected with the Society, is the Hon. John M. Clayton, of Delaware, who long felt a deep interest in the Republic of Liberia, and while Secretary of State prosecuted measures under authority of the President (General Taylor,) to ascertain its condition, character and resources, and make them publicly known. No eulogiums recently pronounced, in the Senate of the United States, (the chief scene of his labors,) on the character of this eminent statesman, have transcended the tribute justly due to his private and public worth.

That eminent banker and philanthropist, Samuel Gurney, of London, a Vice President of this Society, the amount of whose annual charities have seldom been equalled, and to whom the Government of Liberia is largely indebted for aid in obtaining possession of Gallinas, has finished his useful life on earth, and his remains repose near those of his celebrated sister, Mrs. Fry, of whose spirit he partook, and whose reward he doubtless shares.

Nor should the names of the Rev. Thomas Bond, D. D., long the editor of the *Christian Advocate*, and of the Rev. Asa Cummings, D. D., for thirty years conductor of the *Christian Mirror*, of Portland, Maine, be omitted, since both able and fearless in the cause of truth, stood ready at all times, through the press, to defend the benevolent and practical views of this Society.

Almost immediately after the announcement in the last report of the generous subscription in the State of Maine, (which had then reached nearly half the amount required) to obtain a ship for the Society, and of a resolution unanimously adopted by the friends of the object there on the 28th of December, 1855, to go forward, in full reliance upon the liberality of the good people of that State, and build the ship; the President of the Society communicated a letter from Mr. John Stevens, of Talbot county, Md., proposing to give a ship costing from \$35,000 to \$36,000 to the American Colonization Society. The means and influence by which this great gift was secured to this Society may be most briefly and accurately described in the language of

The Mary Caroline Stevens.

the last annual report of the Massachusetts Society: "He (Mr. Stevens,) had already corresponded with Dr. Hall, General Agent of the Maryland Society, concerning another Liberia packet, to be owned and sailed like the former, by the Chesapeake and Liberia Trading Company. Jan. 2, 1856, before the resolution of the Maine Committee, of December 28, was known, Mr. Latrobe, President of the Parent Society, wrote to him on the desirableness of a ship to be owned by the Society, and of his assistance in procuring it. Mr. Stevens replied. January 23, that he had nearly determined to furnish the \$35,000 supposed to be necessary, and "an additional thousand dollars would make no difference," if it should be wanted; but having been informed of the prospects in Maine, he deferred his decision until they could have an interview. February 4, Mr. Latrobe wrote again, informing him of serious difficulties still in the way of the seasonable execution of the Maine enterprise. Mr. Stevens replied February 12, offering to give the whole \$36,000; and to make all safe in case of his death, he proposed at once to transfer certain securities, which he described, amounting to \$34,828, and to advance the rest in cash; the funds and the ship, when built, to be held by trustees, for the use of the Society, and to be liable for no debts, except those growing out of its preservation and employment. The gift was accepted with thanks by the Executive Committee. Mr. Latrobe, President of the Society, Mr. Whittlessey, a member of the Executive Committee, and Dr. Hall, a Director for Life, who had been approved by Mr. Stevens, were appointed trustees; an assignment was drawn up and sent to Mr. Stevens, and was returned with his signature, and a check for the balance in a letter dated March 1. The letter was written by an amanuensis, except the last sentence of a postscript dated March 8. The gentleman who brought it stated that the life of Mr. Stevens was hanging by a thread. April 4, Mr. Latrobe was informed of his death. As he perceived his end approaching, he repeatedly expressed his joy that he had been allowed to live to finish this work." Without delay, the trustees decided upon the size and model of the ship, and a contract with Messrs. Abrahams and Ashcraft for her construction was signed on the 18th of April. As it was ascertained that to fit her with such extra conveniences and accommodations as might best suit her to the purpose of a permanent emigrant ship, some eight or ten thousand dollars in addition to the sum given by Mr. Stevens would be required, the Maryland Colonization Society made the generous loan of some eight thousand dollars, which is to be repaid by the conveyance of emigrants from Maryland to the independent colony founded by that State at Cape Palmas. With his accustomed liberality, F. W. Brune, Esq., of Baltimore, furnished two large iron water tanks capable of containing a full supply of water for emigrants on the voyage, at an expense of \$1200, while Thomas Wilson, Esq., of the same city, tendered whatever amount might be required to supply the cabin with a select and appropriate library.

This ship is of the capacity of 713 tons; her between decks have a height of seven feet, with all arrangements made in the best manner, and in accordance with the laws of the United States, for the health and comfort of emigrants; her lower hold is for supplies and cargo, while her cabin, 42 feet long, is capable of accommodating 16 passengers, and furnished in a style to compare well with that of the finest European passenger ships. The completion of this noble vessel was appropriately celebrated in Baltimore on the 25th of

Celebration of the gift.—Receptacles.

November, under the auspices of the Managers of the Maryland State Colonization Society, who in the spirit of the illustrious founders of their institution, invited many friends of African Colonization from different cities and States to meet, view the ship, exchange congratulations, and partake of their hospitalities. The occasion awoke recollections of many venerated but departed benefactors of the enterprise; of the large honors due to Maryland for her early and generous appropriations to the cause; the favor of Providence towards it was devoutly acknowledged, and animated by memories of the past, and the vast prospect of good spreading out before them, all stood ready to renew and increase their endeavors with loftier courage and better hopes.

Though cheered by so large and valuable a gift, the committee failed not when first informed of the munificent purpose of Mr. Stevens, to communicate the fact to their friends in Maine, and earnestly suggest, that if in view of this noble act of liberality, they should think best to suspend their operations in regard to the ship, they would still pay over the subscriptions already made to the Society for its general purposes, yet to be held as a fund in trust, until such time as the Maine Society should be pleased to apply the amount of these subscriptions to the building of a ship for the Society, or designate some particular object, in connexion with the cause, to which it should be applied.

The Managers of the Maine Society, having alluded to the possible influence which the generous subscriptions of individuals in that State may have exerted upon that munificent son of Maryland, who nobly furnished the whole amount required for building that ship, add, "But while the original project has been thus suspended, it is hoped that at no distant day, when the wants of the Society and the growing trade of the young nation shall demand other vessels for constant use, a similar call will be as favorably met, and those whom God shall have prospered will gladly go beyond their former liberality of purpose."

The report on emigration of the standing committee, on that subject, submitted and adopted by the Board of Directors, at their last annual meeting, recommended special care in the selection of emigrants and in the provision for their health and comfort during the voyage and after their arrival; as also the adoption of measures for such various improvements in Liberia as might render it an inviting home to our free colored population. Subsequently, at the adjourned meeting of the Board, on the 4th of March, an able paper on the subject, was presented by the chairman of that committee, the Reverend Joseph Tracy, and it was declared "that all practicable plans for comfortable residences for emigrants, and the opening of roads and improvements, and settlement of the interior, deserve immediate consideration." The committee proceeded at once to carry into effect the views of the Board. It was resolved to make arrangements for the departure of an expedition on the first of June, to contract for two Barnetized Receptacles, to be ready for shipment on the wharf of Boston at that time, and to appoint the Rev. John Seys, who had resided, as superintendent of the Methodist Mission, several years in Liberia, a special agent to take charge of the expedition, to guard and promote the welfare of the emigrants, and subsequently to visit and carefully examine the higher eastern borders of Liberia and the adjacent country, select a site and make preparations to receive the company chosen, and expected to sail in the autumn, for the interior settlement. The Financial Secretary especially en-

Receptacles.

trusted with the execution of these important measures, wrote immediately to the Rev. Joseph Tracy, Secretary of the Massachusetts Colonization Society, requesting him to make a contract for the two Receptacles. Mr. Tracy received this request on the 11th of March, and aided by an efficient committee of the Massachusetts Society, at once commenced the work. It had been decided, that by sending out the frames and other wooden materials for these buildings, and they, in great part, prepared by machinery, the cost would be less than that of building them of materials to be found in Liberia, and "by Burnetizing them, that is, steeping in a solution of chloride of zinc the part most liable to decay," their durability might, in a considerable degree, be increased. The dimensions and general idea of these buildings having been communicated to Mr. Tracy, "the specifications and drawings were generously furnished without charge by Isaiah B. Young, architect, and Messrs. Flint and Kent, contracted to furnish the buildings, ready framed, with the joiner's and glazier's work all done, and to place them on the wharf ready for shipment for \$6,600. The freight on these Receptacles cost \$4,000, and the erection \$1,400, making the entire expense of both \$12,000."

"Each of these buildings," says the last report of the Massachusetts Colonization Society, "is 96 feet long, 36 feet wide, and two stories high. Through the centre of each story, from end to end, runs a hall 8 feet wide, and another from front to rear 6 feet wide. In the second story, at each end of each hall, is a balcony of the same width, over the door below. On the lower floor, from the transverse hall to one end, is a dining room, 40 feet by 14, a stairway leading to the second story, and under the stairway a large closet, for table furniture and the like, connected with the dining room. The remaining three-fourths of the story is divided into nine rooms, each 14 feet by 15, and 9 feet high. Each room has two windows, and a door opening into the central hall. The dining room and three other corner rooms have each an additional window looking out at the end of the building. Narrow windows, one at each side of each outer door, light the halls. The second story has twelve rooms, each 14 feet by 15—except that space for the stairway is taken out of one of the rooms—and 8 feet high. The windows and doors of these rooms are as in the second story; the doors at the ends of the halls opening into the balconies with side-lights to light the halls. The roof projects about six feet at the sides and ends, which, in that latitude, is sufficient to prevent the direct entrance of the rays of the sun, at noon, at any of the windows, except slightly for a few weeks before and after the winter solstice. With a pavement or planking below, the projecting roofs form a piazza surrounding the whole house. Each is to be placed on a foundation of stone or brick rising two feet above the surface of the ground. The cooking will be done, as is usual in warm climates, in detached kitchens, of cheap construction."

The New York Colonization Society declared, through their Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Pinney, their unanimous vote to appropriate \$5,000 towards the Receptacles, while New Jersey and Pennsylvania expressed, through their societies, a readiness to co-operate in the work; the former by an advance during the year, on certain conditions, of \$2,000, and the latter by the payment of \$1,500.

The Board of Directors, at their last annual meeting, expressed by resolution the opinion that the most cogent reasons existed why the several State societies and all the friends of the cause should unite their best efforts greatly to increase the income of this Society, and in accordance with this resolution the Executive Committee, at their meeting, on the 7th of March, declared themselves deeply impressed with the importance of obtaining, during the

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present year, at least a hundred thousand dollars, and, if possible, much more, it being evident to the committee that more than the above sum could be expended during the time specified with immediate and vast advantage to Liberia and the cause of African colonization; and the secretaries were instructed to make every possible effort to secure the amount specified as required, and to obtain the vigorous co-operation of the several State societies. These views of the committee were published in the *African Repository* for April, and the co-operation of the State societies earnestly invited by letters. The New York Society, at its annual meeting, on the 6th of May, voted unanimously, that in pledging to the Parent Institution the sum of \$5,000 it had been moved by a deep conviction of the importance of the measure recommended by the Directors and adopted by the committee, and that the friends of the Society might well congratulate themselves on the general harmony of opinion prevalent among the several State societies, and the increasing zeal and liberality expressed by those interested in the enterprise throughout the Union. Having stated that the appeal from Washington is for \$100,000, they add in concluding their report, "so far as the Board of Managers of the New York State Colonization Society, and the society they represent, can aid in securing the adequate income, they have not hesitated to pledge that aid." Very friendly sentiments were expressed by other State societies, and we are happy to acknowledge such a measure of co-operation as should inspire hopes for the future of still more general, constant, and efficient support to the cause.

The appointment of the Rev. John Orcutt, as Traveling Secretary of this Society, left no agency in Connecticut where his services for several years had been very successful, and on the 11th of June the Rev. Wm. Warren, a gentleman highly recommended by his predecessor and others, was invited to accept the agency for that State.

At the same time the Rev. James C. Finley, son of the venerable Dr. Finley, whose name is identified with the organization of the Society, accepted a commission of agency for the States of Illinois and Indiana. Both of the gentlemen have accepted their appointments, and engaged earnestly in their labors, and with fair promise of success.

A field of great usefulness is opening before this Society, in the State of North Carolina, and the Rev. P. S. Bryant, of the Methodist Church, a gentleman well qualified to advance the interests of the cause, has accepted an agency for that State.

The Rev. J. N. Danforth, D. D., has occupied some part of his time during the year in labors for the Society in Delaware and the District of Columbia.

In Ohio, John C. Stockton, Esq., in the eastern, and the Rev. B. O. Plimpton, in the northeastern part of the State, have continued to press the claims and make collections for the Society.

In Maine and Rhode Island, with an occasional visit to New Hampshire, the labors of a long tried and faithful agent of the Society, Capt. George Barker, have been uninterrupted and attended with a good degree of success.

The Rev. J. S. Bacon, D. D., visited, during the last and the early part of the present year, several of the southwestern States, and availed himself of many opportunities, public and private, to explain the views and invite aid to the Society. Through his earnest endeavors the subject was brought to the consideration of the Georgia Legislature, many members of which expressed

States.

their deep interest in the cause and their readiness to vote for an appropriation for its aid. Something was gained by the discussion which arose, and reasonable grounds to hope for favorable future action. In Milledgeville and Macon the public addresses of Dr. Bacon were well received, and in New Orleans and various places in Mississippi he met with such a degree of favor as to persuade him that a great work might be accomplished by patient and persevering labor for the Society.

It may deserve consideration whether some system of agencies may not be set in operation more useful than any yet known in the history and experience of this Society. The subject is already before the Board of Directors, and will doubtless receive from them the attention which its importance demands.

Maryland now sees the infant settlement, planted by her hand, nurtured by her care, and honored by her name on the African coast, risen to the dignity and clothed with the attributes of an independent State, her heart grows warm, and is stirred with new hopes and purposes for the civilization of Africa.

Virginia cherishes all her original faith in the cause, feels profoundly both its justice and philanthropy, and with veneration for the counsels, and animated by the spirit of her great statesmen, her Washington, Monroe, Madison, and Marshall, will add to the honors of patriotism those of philanthropy, and verify the brief but memorable words of her present Governor, "Africa gave to Virginia a savage and a slave; Virginia gives back to Africa a citizen and a Christian."

Nor has Kentucky failed to emulate the example of the ancient Dominion from which she sprung, but touched by the spirit of her immortal son, the echo of whose voice will die only when Liberty herself expires, in February last, by the vote of a large majority of her representatives, appropriated \$5,000 annually, without limitation of time, to aid the colonization of such free persons of color within her limits as might desire to find a home in Liberia.

The great State of New York, which has done so much through the liberality of her citizens, will yet, we have reason to believe, act generously on the subject, through her legislature, thus demonstrating both her commercial sagacity and far extending humanity.

Hopes are entertained of an early appropriation from North Carolina, the general sentiment of the leading minds of that State having long been favorable to the Society; nor is the progress of the opinion that its principles are sound and its plans practicable and benevolent, in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Louisiana, and indeed in all the States, to be doubted. Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Indiana, New Jersey, and Connecticut, have made appropriations, and it may be reasonably expected that the same will soon be done by all the States.

The increasing value of the African trade deserves public attention and the consideration of the national government. Great Britain is very sensible of this value, and while in 1854 the trade of the United States to Africa generally was \$3,146,522, that of Great Britain rose to \$23,000,000, or about eight times that amount. It is estimated that more than one hundred ships, many of them of 1,000 tons burden, regularly trade between Great Britain and the Coast of Africa, while one or more steamers leave London monthly for Liberia and other commercial communities north and south of that republic. France, Spain, Denmark, Portugal, and Germany, participate in this trade, but the

 Commerce of Africa.

interests of England surpass those of all the other European states, and while the average annual exports from Western Africa to those states is \$15,000,000, at a commercial exchange in favor of the European merchants of about 500 per cent., motives cannot be wanting for its vigorous prosecution.

A document carefully prepared at the Department of State mentions the increase of the palm oil trade in Liberia during the three years preceding 1855 to have been from 1,000 gallons* in a year to 700,000, and that in 1855 more than thirty vessels were freighted with this article at her ports. The slave trade has been the mighty foe to all lawful African commerce; but since so powerfully checked by the combined influence of civilized settlements and the squadrons of England and the United States, it is stated by the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson (who resided eighteen years on that coast) that "twenty-five or thirty years ago there were not more than ten or twelve vessels engaged in lawful commerce; at present, however, there are more than 200, the aggregate tonnage of which greatly exceeds that of the slave trade in the days of its most uninterrupted prosperity." He further says: "There is no reason to doubt that palm oil will in a few years become one of the largest branches of commerce in the world."

By reference to the financial statement, several very interesting facts will appear, among which stands prominent that the whole amount of our receipts have been \$81,384 41. The expenditures have been \$79,394 79, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$1,993 62, and an indebtedness of \$24,136 74.

We have been fortunate in obtaining several legacies during the year, the payment of which had for some time been delayed. The whole amount from legacies is \$14,675 84. Of this, however, \$5,000 is the balance of the Graham legacy for the support of schools in Liberia, which is invested, according to the will, for that purpose, and therefore was not a part of our available working funds. One of the most encouraging features in the operations of the year is the large amount, \$32,676 09, received in payment for the expenses of emigrants. Another is that the auxiliary State societies have paid us in cash \$9,799 75. We also acknowledge our obligations to individual donors for liberal contributions, among and at the head of whom stands our esteemed friend Richard Hoff, Esq., of Elbert County, Georgia, who sent out fifty-four of his slaves, gave them a liberal outfit, and paid us \$2,000, with the promise of \$1,780 more, making \$3,780. Next to him stands our generous friend, John Knickerbacker, of Waterford, New York, who sent his check for \$2,500, remarking, "I take an interest in the cause, and desire to show it." Next to him is David Floyd, of Rocky Plains, Georgia, who sent nineteen of his slaves, and gave \$1,225 for their expenses, after having spent a large amount on them. Next to him is Mrs. Elizabeth Holderness, of Columbus, Mississippi, who sent fourteen slaves to Liberia, liberally provided for, and paid us \$968.

We record these instances of liberality with gratitude.

*NOTE.—The Maryland Colonization Journal thinks this an error, and that 200,000 gallons were imported from Liberia in 1852—also that in 1856 the amount exceeded 1,200,000 gallons.

Inauguration of President Benson.

Among the receipts stands one item, the first fruit of the magnificent donation of Mr. Stevens. This is \$842 07 for freight, &c., in our ship, the *Mary Caroline Stevens*. We hope it will be our privilege at the close of another year to report this amount greatly increased.

It was stated in the last report that President Roberts having fulfilled ably and successfully the office of President for eight years, had declined a reelection, and Stephen A. Benson, by a large majority, had been chosen his successor. The inauguration of President Benson took place on the 7th of January, 1856. In a valedictory address on the occasion, the retiring President having alluded to the portentous clouds which at times had obscured the horizon of the Republic, and the serious and trying conflicts through which she had passed, added: "But, fellow-citizens, we have passed triumphantly through them all, and to-day we behold Liberia no longer a doubtful experiment, but in verity and truth a fixed reality, with a government founded on the sound principles of equal justice, which maintains inflexibly the maxims of public faith, the security of persons and property, and which encourages that general diffusion of knowledge which guarantees to public liberty its permanency. A government pursuing the public good as its sole object, and regulating its means of doing so by the great principles consecrated to republicanism, and those moral principles upon which the constitution of our country is based. A government, in a word, whose conduct within and without may bespeak the most noble of all ambitions, that of promoting not only the best interests of its own citizens, but peace on earth and good will to all mankind." Of the aboriginal tribes he says: "In regard to this people we have the highest human trust committed to our hands. Let us not be unfaithful. Providence has hitherto greatly favored our efforts in the cause of freedom, has showered many blessings upon our country, and I doubt not has chosen us not only as the pioneers of better days to our unfortunate race in the scale of nationality, but also as his instruments in effecting the great work of Africa's redemption. May He who holds in his own hands the destinies of nations make us worthy of the favors He has bestowed, and enable us with pure hearts and pure hands to push forward the great work he has committed to our care. Should we neglect Heaven's high calling—should we fail to act our part in carrying out the design of Providence in reference to the civilization of Africa—who can vouch for the continuance of the national blessings which we have hitherto enjoyed." In the inaugural address of President Benson he declares one of the great ends of his administration to be "the moral, intellectual, social, and political improvement of the aborigines;" and having alluded to incontrovertible proofs of their possessing the elements of a great nation, he adds: "If these elements are so admirably manifest in the aborigines while yet in their heathenism, what earthly mind can adequately picture the great national glory that awaits this Christian republic, when the aborigines shall have fully partaken of our civilization and Christianity; when they shall be raised to a perfect level and flow in one common channel with us, socially, politically, and religiously." These generous and philanthropic sentiments express not merely the views of their distinguished authors, but the spirit of the constitution of Liberia, which, in the 13th section, imposes a high duty towards the native tribes upon the President of the Republic, in these words:

 Regard for the Natives.—War at Sinou.

“The improvement of the native tribes, and their advancement in the arts of agriculture and husbandry, being a cherished object of this government, it shall be the duty of the President to appoint in each county some discreet person, whose duty it shall be to make regular and periodical tours through the country for the purpose of calling the attention of the natives to these wholesome branches of industry, and of instructing them in the same; and the legislature shall, as soon as it can be conveniently done, make provision for these purposes by the appropriation of money.” Most of those who occupied high offices under the former administration belong to the present cabinet, and it deserves notice, as stated in the report of the Massachusetts Society, that the Chief Magistrate of Liberia and his counsellors are persons, with hardly an exception, educated and trained for their duties in Liberia—President Benson having accompanied his parents to Liberia in 1822, when six years of age; Vice President Yates in 1829, aged eighteen; Mr. Warner in 1822, aged nine; Mr. Chavers in 1826, aged eight; Mr. Payne in 1829, aged fifteen.

The war at Sinou, which broke out in November, 1855, between the people of that county and several of the native tribes (particular accounts of the origin, progress, and calamities of which have been published) was brought to a close in the month of June last, the chiefs and lead men having met President Benson at the court-house in Greenville on the 21st and 23d of that month, when, as is stated by him in his letter of June 28th to the Society, “a heavy fine was imposed on each tribe for their murderous and incendiary aggressions on the settlements in Sinou county, and further requisitions made on them which will in due time be made known.” “It is true,” adds President Benson, “that the sufferings in the settlements of Sinou county have been great, but the natives whom we have been compelled to chastise have suffered still more; so much so, as that they will never again compel us to inflict another chastisement upon them. And I assure you it is something we would always gladly avoid. The inhabitants of Sinou are now very cheerful; they indulge in the belief that a season of unparalleled prosperity in the history of their county is beginning to dawn. It is beyond doubt that the difficulties they have had will prove a great blessing to that county.” Among the most important provisions secured by the treaty with these tribes are an open and free trade with the people of the interior, a pledge that they will not make war upon any tribe without consulting the Liberian government, and the cession of the whole country belonging to the Bloo Barras. Of this territory formal possession was taken by President Benson on the 23d of June, 1856.

The entire management of this campaign reflects high credit upon its commanding officer, General Lewis, and also upon the subordinate officers and men, who were encouraged by the presence and good counsels of President Benson.

Among the evils of this war must be set down the withdrawal, for more than a month, of four or five hundred men from their ordinary pursuits; the expenditures of the government for their support when provisions were more than a hundred per cent. higher than usual; the destruction by violence and fire of the property and dwellings of eighty-eight families from four of the invaded and well nigh wasted settlements, as stated by the Rev. B. R. Wilson, and the necessity of giving succor by the government and individuals to one thousand

helpless persons to save them from starvation; the destruction, after offers of peace were made and rejected, of a number of native villages and some lives; while the demonstration, marked alike by courage and humanity, of the ability of the Liberians to vindicate their rights, to conduct promptly, vigorously, and successfully a military expedition, to subdue barbarous foes and bind them to peace, not only with the Republic but with each other and all their neighbors, unless a departure from it should be authorized by the authority of the government of Liberia; the opening of many safe avenues of trade with the interior; the awakening of industry and a sense of the necessity of agricultural labor and improvement; the acquisition of valuable territory; and the ways and means of extending the influence and benefits of civilization and the Christian faith, may yet show the affliction inconsiderable when compared with the good attained. For the relief of the sufferers at Sinou the New York Colonization Society has appropriated \$500, and has earnestly appealed to public sympathy for contributions for their benefit.

On the 13th of April, 1855, Governor Wright, of Indiana, informed the government of Liberia that he was empowered to negotiate with the Republic for land in Africa for the use and benefit of colored emigrants from that State; that it was the wish of that State to make ample provision for such emigrants, and even to offer inducements to emigration in the way of land in Liberia, which may be either held or sold; that the State desired each emigrant to receive, as a gift from it, the same quantity of land as is allowed by the Republic; that about fifty emigrants had already gone from Indiana, and as many more were preparing for a home there; that Grand Cape Mount had been mentioned as an eligible place for a settlement; and that, should the government of Liberia consent to dispose of the land desired at a price not exceeding one dollar an acre, the President was authorized to draw on the agent of the State for the sum of one thousand dollars, to be placed to the credit of the State Board of Colonization for Indiana. President Benson replied, March 29, 1856, that the sudden adjournment of the legislature of Liberia at the breaking out of the war had prevented action on the subject, which had been brought to their consideration, but that all the members had expressed themselves in favor of the proposals of his Excellency, and that he would doubtless be enabled at the next meeting of the legislature to communicate the result.

Our last report mentioned the expeditions sent out the year previous, and among them that by the barque *Lamartine*, which sailed on the 24th of December, 1855, and of which no intelligence had at the time of the last general meeting been received. This ship had a short passage of thirty days, and conveyed to Liberia the Rev. Mr. Horne and family, of the Methodist Mission; Dr. Snowden (destined to fulfil the duties of physician at Sinou) and family; several Liberians who had visited the United States, happy to return to their African home; and forty-eight others, who, one infant excepted, arrived in good health. This company was select. On arrival they were remarkably well pleased with the country. Some were from New Jersey; and, says the New York report, "in relation to this whole company, a new experiment has been made testing their capacity to provide for themselves by permitting a certain sum to each person, and then throwing on themselves the responsibility of self-support." Gratifying intelligence has been received both from this company and those sent out previously in 1855 in the two voyages of the barque *Cora*, chartered by the Parent Society.

Settlement at Cape Mount.

The commencement of a promising settlement at Grand Cape Mount, on the 7th of April, 1855, under direction of President Roberts, was mentioned in the last report. The establishment and recent growth of this settlement is full of interest. Cape Mount is forty miles north of Monrovia, and the most imposing and attractive object that meets the eye of the voyager as he comes near to the coast of Liberia. President Roberts visited this place early in October, 1855, and with some fifteen men taken from the garrison put up by the first settlers for temporary residence near the sea, explored the country and found what he sought, an eligible site for the settlement—"good land, abundance of excellent water, and at sufficient elevation to secure, under ordinary circumstances, general good health."

"We found Cape Mount, as to its form," says the Rev. Francis Burns, Superintendent of the Methodist mission, "not as we had supposed; and as its appearance from the sea would indicate, but rather a common base varying in altitude from one hundred to two hundred feet, superimposed by two or three high ridges, running parallel with the line of sea coast, with deep depressions between them. The condition of the mountain indicated an abundance of good living water from springs; to the very top of the ridge we passed over the soil was good with sufficient quantities of both timber and stone for any purposes, whether public or private. On one side of this pile of hills or ridges, overlaying a high common base, is the sea. On the opposite side interiorwise, is a beautiful panoramic view of rivers, and a somewhat large lake, dotted in different directions with islands of varying forms and dimensions." From this point, access is gained to thousands of the most intelligent and inquisitive natives of the coast, who seem anxious to be instructed, and disposed to hear the gospel of Christ. Cape Mount has been for centuries a notorious slave mart, and its usual accompaniments, ferocious and bloody wars with all the crimes and outrages that attend them. Here was the residence of Theodore Canot, the history of whose crimes and piracies during twenty years, as dictated by himself, has been given to the world. Who then will be surprised that the faithful missionary from whom we have quoted, pronounced it a touching scene, when on the Sabbath within the enclosure of the garrison, having preached, he administered the communion, "kneeling down on the floor of earth with the chief officer of the Republic, three ministers, and a few sheep of Christ's flock, mingling their tears, their sympathies, and their prayers on a spot of ground long known as a great rallying point of sin and shame, but for the first time since Adam lived, the scene of the holy christian eucharist." On the 4th of May, 1856, President Benson visited Cape Mount on a mission of peace, and had the happiness to settle disputes and reconcile differences which had for several years caused wars to rage so fiercely between powerful tribes as greatly to diminish the productions and population of the country. Friendly intercourse was opened between the belligerents, and trade suspended for nearly half a century began to revive. The benefit of this personal and friendly interposition of the President of Liberia to establish peace between these barbarians will be more justly appreciated when we know that it is estimated by the *Liberia Herald*, that from the year 1848, to January, 1856, there have been not less than 100,000 natives killed and sold out of the Vey country. Over that bloody soil of fraud, piracy, cruelty and shame, now floats the flag of freedom, and amid that darkness is seen the sign of Him who is the

The Elvira Owen.

light of the world. In view of the importance of this settlement, and with the view of strengthening it with additional numbers, in compliance with the earnest request of the President of Liberia, it was decided to send one of the Receptacles to this place, and nearly one hundred of the emigrants, who embarked in the Elvira Owen, which sailed from Savannah on the 29th of May. This ship of 872 tons, was chartered and fitted out with ample stores in Boston, by the Financial Secretary; here she took on board the frames of the two Receptacles, and a valuable medical library and surgical instruments and apparatus of the late Dr. Rufus Kittridge, of Portsmouth, which were bequeathed by him to the government of Liberia, and valued at \$5,000. A supply of seeds for the contemplated garden of the Receptacle, Bibles and Testaments from the Bible Society, with primers from the Tract Society, were placed on board for the use of the emigrants and general distribution among them. The charter of this ship cost \$4,400, and her invoice amounted to about \$28,000. In Hampton Roads, 179 emigrants were secured on board, and 142 at Savannah, making in all 321. After a passage of fifty days, the Elvira Owen arrived at Monrovia, having lost twenty-one of her emigrants by measles, diarrhæa, and other diseases. No cause has been ascertained for this unusual mortality. Could the best accommodations and provisions, the most earnest and unremitting attentions, combined with much medical knowledge on the part of Mr. Seys, have availed, it had not occurred. Through the rare industry, practical good sense and energy of Mr. Seys, the two Receptacles by the last advices were erected, and occupied by those of the emigrants who desire a temporary home in them, while others, destined to Clay-Ashland, (or the Kentucky settlement,) had visited the place, selected their sites for a residence, and removed their effects into houses rented for occupation during the first six months, intending, says Mr. Seys, "while well and able to work, by putting in a crop to help themselves to live when off the hands of the Society. I have urged this most strenuously upon all who are agriculturists, and they are taking advice. Ware, Baldwin, Fulkerson, Holderness, and their families, have already gone, and Law, Morton and others are preparing to follow."

From Cape Mount he wrote on the 3d September: "I am delighted with this place; there is nothing wanted but men, means and enterprize, to make it one of the flourishing commercial ports of Western Africa; while the fertile soil, the pure and cool and abundant supply of excellent water, all conspire to make it a most desirable home for emigrants from the United States. It ought to be sustained by the utmost energy and zeal." On the 9th of November, Mr. Seys wrote that "the removal of such emigrants at Cape Mount as had been attacked by fever on the lower ground of the garrison, to their mountain house was almost incredible: Women who had to be carried in hammocks, were soon revived by the pure air around, invigorated by the delightful sea breeze, and so cheered up the inimitable prospect and scenery, that before the close of the day they were walking about the house." But two deaths had occurred among the emigrants landed at Cape Mount—one adult and one child, making four in all—3 children and 1 adult out of the 300 who arrived at Monrovia. On the 9th of November, Mr. Seyr had made all preparations at Monrovia for an immediate departure to explore the high lands interior from Monrovia, and on his return in about fourteen days, to visit the elevated district of country purchased by the New Jersey Colonization Society, east of Grand Bassa, and having fixed

Schools in Receptacles.

the site, to prepare for the arrival, by the Mary Caroline Stevens, of those destined to found the interior settlement.

Of the impression made upon the mind of Mr. Seys, on revisiting Liberia, after an absence of fifteen years, we are informed by the following passage in a letter of the 26th of August, to the Recording Secretary :

"I am delighted with the improvements in this town, up the river, and every where I turn. Brothers Horne and Burns, and myself, went up to Millsburgh last Wednesday and returned the next day. We found Mrs. Wilkins and Miss Kilpatrick well, the premises in fine order, save the house, which leaks badly, a beautiful flower-garden, and the school in flourishing condition. This school of girls, you know, is a nursery of the church. Eternity alone will tell how many have here been brought into the fold of the Redeemer, lived to glorify His name on earth, and are now in the church triumphant. We stopped at a number of places : Caldwell, Clay-Ashland, and others, and everywhere I discovered with the utmost satisfaction a degree of improvement truly encouraging. At the *Bellevue* farm of Mr. Jordan, a steam sugar mill is in operation, and he is making sugar and syrup. Several friends here, knowing my familiar acquaintance with the whole process, requested me to give a few hints on the subject. So by writing at night and very early in the morning, I have succeeded in preparing for the press a little treatise on the cultivation of the sugar-cane and the manufacture of sugar. I trust the humble offering to the interests of Liberia will be of some future advantage. There is no finer country in the world for sugar-cane than Liberia. This I said twenty years ago, in public places everywhere, and every day demonstrates the truth of my saying. Messrs. Jordan, Richardson, Blackledge, and others, have acres upon acres of cane, and such cane as no one of fifteen West India islands I have been in, can excel."

On the 24th of October, the Executive Committee referred the subject of establishing a common English and Agricultural school in each of the Receptacles in Liberia, to a select committee, who on the 7th of November, reported a plan which was adopted. The committee stated in their report, that each Receptacle would accommodate one hundred and twenty-five emigrants, about one-third of whom would be of a proper age to attend school ; that some adults might attend with benefit ; that the Society's ship would make two voyages in a year, bringing emigrants to each Receptacle at the end of six months, so that they would be constantly occupied ; that as she would carry 196 adults, equal to about 240 of all ages, we might expect a school of forty scholars to be kept up at least ten months in the year, in which the rudiments of a common school education might be acquired ; that as land suitable for cultivation would surround or adjoin each Receptacle, adults as well as children might find benefit to mind as well as body, by agricultural occupation, and do something perhaps much towards their own support. On recommendation of the committee, it was resolved to establish such a school in connection with each Receptacle ; to apply the income of the legacy of ten thousand dollars from Augustus Graham, now amounting to 660 dollars annually, to the support of those schools ; that board and lodging be allowed to the teachers as part of their compensation ; that the children of parents who are unable to educate them, be allowed a reasonable privilege beyond the term of six months ; that should the schools not be full, the agents of the Society be authorized to place in them a certain number of pupils who may pay for their instruction, and thus the teachers be occupied and education be extended. That the teachers be men of piety, maintain Sabbath schools, and give instruction in the Bible and religious books ; that each Receptacle have a suitable library ;

List of Emigrants.

that a board of trustees, consisting of the President of the Republic, the agents and physicians at Cape Mount and Monrovia, be chosen with authority to appoint and remove the teachers, subject to the approval of this committee, and adopt regulations for the benefit of all concerned, and that the teachers be required to report fully and minutely to the trustees at the end of each term of five months. The American Bible, Tract, and Sunday School Union Societies, as they have generously done on former occasions, kindly contributed a liberal supply of their books for the use and benefit of these schools.

On the 29th of November, sailed from Norfolk, on her first voyage, the Society's ship Mary Caroline Stevens, with 217 emigrants. Dr. James Hall, of Baltimore, one of the Directors of this Society—a gentleman the value of whose services during many years to the cause generally, and whose superintendence of the entire construction of the ship especially, are highly appreciated by this Society—took passage in this ship and consented to attend to important matters of business, and make all requisite arrangements for conducting the business of the ship while at Liberia.

The following table will give all necessary information touching the character of the emigrants:

TABLE OF EMIGRANTS—Showing the number of Emigrants sent to Liberia by the American Colonization Society and its auxiliaries, from each State, from 1820 to 1856, inclusive.

Number of vessels sent to December, 1855,	-	-	-	-	-	112
Number of emigrants sent to December, 1855,	-	-	-	-	-	8,964
Number born free,	-	-	-	-	-	3,623
Number that purchased their freedom,	-	-	-	-	-	306
Number emancipated in view of emigrating to Liberia,	-	-	-	-	-	5,035

Number sent in 1856, as follows:

No.	Vessels.	Time of sailing.	Born free.	Emancip'd.	Purchased themselves.	WHERE FROM.													Total.
						Mass.	Conn.	Penn.	Md.	Va.	N. C.	Geo.	Ala.	Miss.	Tenn.	Ky.	Mo.	Cal.	
1	Ship Elvira Owen,	May 20	44	269	8	1	2	—	4	57	41	85	2	14	42	67	7	—	321
2	Ship M. C. Stevens,	Dec. 6	9	196	12	6	—	1	1	103	13	56	3	1	13	19	—	1	217
			53	465	20	6	2	1	5	160	54	141	5	15	55	86	7	1	538

Recapitulation.

Massachusetts,	-	34	Alabama,	-	-	104	Cherokee Nation,	1
Rhode Island,	-	33	Mississippi,	-	-	536	California,	1
Connecticut,	-	46	Louisiana,	-	-	261		
New York,	-	199	Tennessee,	-	-	674	Total number,	9,502
New Jersey,	-	35	Kentucky,	-	-	585		
Pennsylvania,	-	179	Ohio,	-	-	55		
Delaware,	-	5	Indiana,	-	-	78		
Maryland,	-	510	Illinois,	-	-	34	No. born free,	3,676
Dist. of Columbia,	104		Missouri,	-	-	83	No. that purchased	
Virginia,	-	3,315	Michigan,	-	-	1	their freedom,	326
North Carolina,	-	1,158	Iowa,	-	-	3	No. emancipated	
South Carolina,	-	415	Texas,	-	-	16	in view of emi-	
Georgia,	-	1,030	Choctaw Nation,	7			grating to Liberia	5,500

Liberia College.

Among the greatest events of the year, in relation to the interests and prospects of this Society and Liberia, was the departure from Boston for Monrovia, December 28th, of the ship *Dirigo*, chartered by the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia to convey to the late distinguished President of the Republic of Liberia, and now President of Liberia College, the materials for the erection of a substantial and convenient college building on a tract of land granted for that purpose by the Legislature of that Republic. This subject cannot be presented to the general meeting more briefly, clearly, and comprehensively than in the language of the able Secretary of the Trustees for Donations, in Liberia, in their recent published statements.

LIBERIA COLLEGE.—This College was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of the Republic of Liberia, approved December 24, 1851. Its charter is nearly the same as the best college charters in the United States. It vests the control of the Institution in a Board of Trustees, of not less than nine nor more than thirteen members. The Board fills its own vacancies, except that four members are to be nominated by the President of the Republic. It is endowed, by the Legislature, with one hundred acres of land, selected as the best location for the College. The Trustees have the power of appointing and removing all officers of instruction and government in the College, except that for the present, and until they see fit to take the exercise of that power into their own hands, those officers may be appointed by the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia.

These last named trustees were incorporated by an act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, approved March 19, 1850, with power to hold real and personal estate to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, the income whereof shall be applied to the promotion of collegiate education in Liberia. The amount received from donations and income of investments is about twenty-four thousand dollars.

The Trustees of Donations have, with the approbation of the Trustees of the college and of the friends of Liberia generally, appointed the Hon. Joseph J. Roberts, late President of the Republic of Liberia, to the Presidency of the college, and he has accepted the office. There is reason to believe that the other necessary members of the faculty will be engaged as soon as preparations can be made to employ them; and some important arrangements are in progress for insuring their support. Some provision has also been made for the support of indigent students while pursuing their studies.

The next step, for the taking of which everything else must wait, is the erection of a college building on the college lands. For this a plan has been devised, furnishing a dining room, library, rooms for recitation and study in classes, apartments for two members of the faculty with their families, and dormitories and study-rooms for twenty-two students, but capable, if necessary, of receiving a larger number. The outer walls, and the partition walls of the lower story, are to be of brick, and the whole, as required by the climate, to be surrounded by piazzas supported on iron frames. The plan admits of easy and economical enlargement, whenever the growth of the college shall require it.

The greater part of the materials for this building, and its necessary appurtenances, have been procured and shipped. The cost of the remaining materials, and of the labor of erection, is very nearly known. The whole expense will be about twenty thousand dollars.

As it is indispensable that the Trustees of Donations should have in their hands a fund at least equal to that already received, to meet the current expenses of the college; and as the other funds, to which allusion has been made, are not at their disposal for this purpose, or, at present, for any purpose; they are compelled to appeal to the friends of Liberia and of Christian civilization, learning, and piety, in Africa, for aid.

It will occur to many, that there are individuals of sufficient largeness of

Rev. Thomas Officer's Testimony.

mind, of heart, and of estate, to grant this aid ; and it is true that any one who should do it, would earn the lasting gratitude of Africa and all her friends.

This college building will be 70 feet long, 45 feet wide, and three stories high. It will contain apartments for two members of the college faculty and their families, who will reside in the building and have the immediate oversight of the students ; a dining room sufficient for these families and the students ; a room for the library and philosophical apparatus ; a hall to be used as a chapel, lecture room, or for any other purpose for which all the students need to be convened ; rooms for recitation and for study in classes ; dormitories for students, and the necessary offices, store rooms, and other accommodations. The kitchen is to be a detached building, in easy communication with the dining room.

The walls of the college building are to be of brick, on a foundation of Liberia granite rising two feet above the surface of the earth. About half of the brick goes out in the Dirigo. The remainder, with the lime, will be procured in the immediate vicinity.

The building will be surrounded by a verandah eight feet wide, supported by an iron frame, the posts of which will be inserted into blocks of granite. Doors open from each story of the building into the corresponding story of the verandah.

The site for the college building is an elevation on the right or northwest bank of the St. Paul's river, about twelve miles from Monrovia and eight from the Atlantic ocean, both of which will be visible from its cupola, and probably, when some intervening forest trees are cleared away, from its base. The tract of one hundred acres on which it will stand, is well adapted for a model farm, and is in the immediate vicinity of the oldest, largest, and richest agricultural settlements in Liberia.

The buildings will be able to accommodate forty or fifty students, besides the President and a Professor, or two Professors, with their families and attendants.

In the early part of the year a society was organized in New York, with a view to the exploration of Western Africa, but of its present purposes and prospects we have no exact information. In this connection it may be mentioned that a company has been formed in Liberia with the view of opening a road 20 feet wide, to the distance of 200 miles into the interior. The leaders in this enterprise will seek a charter from the Legislature, and, should it be granted, they believe that in twelve months their work will be completed to the distance of thirty or fifty miles into the interior.

Much valuable testimony has been given to the public, during the year, going to establish the character and influence of the Liberian Government, the growth and prosperity of its schools, and multiplying settlements, the increase of agricultural industry and improvement, and the adaptedness of its institutions to secure the highest permanent benefits to its own citizens and to Africa. The Rev. Thomas Officer, for some time connected with a mission founded in a spirit little favorable to this Society, sums up the result of his observations of Western Africa, as a mission field, in these words : " We have now seen that the wants of the people of Western Africa are numerous and great—that they are of such a kind as can best be met by the introduction of Christian settlements—that the natural advantages of the country are amply sufficient to sustain such communities—that the peculiarity of the climate is such as renders it altogether best that these settlements be made up of black men, that there is no good reason to deny the black man's capacity for the work—and that the Republic of Liberia opens up the most important situations for these mission settlements."

Recent intelligence from the Rev. B. J. Drayton, Governor of the Independent State of Maryland, at Cape Palmas, states that peace prevails with the surrounding tribes; that the Palmas tribe now observes the Lord's day; that agriculture is receiving attention, and that efforts were made to open roads into the interior, to extend trade and settle differences with the people of the adjoining country. A treaty of friendship and commerce has been ratified between this State and the Republic of Liberia.

By the Legislature of Liberia, a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation has been ratified between that Republic and the Free Hanseatic Towns of Lubec, Bremen, and Hamburg.

Early in the year the Rev. Alex. Crummell, of Monrovia, appealed for aid in the construction of a suitable building for the Library of the Monrovia Lyceum. In a single week offers to supply the sum required were made separately, by three gentlemen, residing in different cities. That of a gentleman of New York was accepted. Such an evidence of regard to the interests of education and intellectual improvement in Liberia should be recorded with honor.

A specimen of pure malleable native iron has been discovered in Liberia. The Rev. Joseph Tracy, of Boston, took charge of what was thought to be but a fragment of iron ore from that Republic—and submitted it to the careful analysis of Dr. A. A. Hayes, of that city. The analysis afforded pure iron 98.40 quartz grains, magnetic oxyd of iron and zeolite 1.60 = 100. The commercial value of this article will depend upon its abundance and expense of obtaining it for market. It may prove of very great value.

The consular system of the United States was remodelled by act of Congress in 1855, and authority given to appoint a consular or commercial agent to reside at Monrovia, with a salary of \$1000. The office of commercial agent for that place has been conferred on Dr. G. Z. Forney, of Pennsylvania, who has entered upon the discharge of his duties.

Of the great work of missions in which many faithful servants of the Redeemer are engaged in Africa, we can only say that a divine blessing rests upon their labors, and that it is bright with promise. In that remarkable community of Sierra Leone, two hundred native languages are spoken, and many native Africans are preparing, in schools, to become teachers and missionaries to their barbarous kindred. The gospel is now preached in the capital of Ashanti, and the King of Dehom has expressed his wish that missionaries should come and reside in his dominions. English and American missionaries have planted the christian church in the populous cities of Yoruba.

The last three years have been signally distinguished by valuable geographical and ethnological discoveries in Africa. Doctors Barth, and Vogel, and Richardson, and other bold and enterprising travelers, have penetrated to the great and populous regions of Central Africa, determined by astronomical observations, the positions of many places hitherto unknown, and revealed the shocking cruelties inflicted by powerful and warlike tribes, in their expeditions to plunder and subdue their unoffending, but weaker neighbors. In one of these expeditions Dr. Vogel saw 36 prisoners cut to pieces alive, and of the four thousand slaves carried off, all women and children under twelve years of age, 3,500 died of dysentery and small pox before they reached Kuka. The English Niger expedition, successfully conducted by Dr. Baikie, has opened commerce in regions not before visited, and added 250 miles of the Chadda above

the point reached by Allen and Oldfield, to our maps. Mr. Anderson has visited Lake Ngami, and Lieut. Burton, with resolution seldom equalled, entered Harvar and Berbera, and again gone forth to the inner sea of Uniamese and the sources of the Nile. The Rev. Robert Moffat has spent seven months in exploring a very extensive, beautiful and well watered country; while his son-in-law, Dr. Livingston, with Roman courage, but the spirit of an apostle, has twice crossed the African continent, surveyed and described the province of Angola, traced the courses of before unknown, but mighty rivers, crossed unknown mountains, and studied nature and man in vast regions, shrouded in the past forever from the observation of the civilized world, and having through the favor of Providence returned to London, he invites England and all the nations blessed by christianity, to make Africa a partaker of the sublime truths and imperishable hopes of the gospel.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the Rev. John Seys, has recently been appointed by the President, agent for recaptured Africans on the coast of Africa, an office created by the act of Congress of 1819, for the suppression of the slave trade.

Against this traffic, has this Society from its origin borne a solemn testimony, and regarded its entire abolition and the civilization of Africa as among its greatest and most beneficent anticipated results. Never should be forgotten the obligations of this Society to the Congress and President of the United States, Mr. Monroe; to the former for the provisions of the act of the 3d of March, 1819, for the suppression of the slave trade, and the repeated liberal appropriations by which it has been sustained; to the latter for that wise sagacity which enabled him in executing most effectually these provisions, essentially, to aid in laying on the shore of Africa the permanent foundations of a free and christian commonwealth; and clearly, the amount expended in aid of Liberia, has far exceeded in effect for the act specified, that of any equal direct expenditure ever made. The great endeavors of christian nations against this iniquity have availed much. According to Mr. Wilson, whose opinion is entitled to much respect, "more than 2000 miles of sea coast has been relieved from this scourge; and perhaps more than 20,000,000 of human beings interiorward, have been restored to comparative peace and happiness by the operations of the squadron along the coast." If compelled to deplore some revival of this trade, and the reported fitting out in our own ports, of a considerable number of vessels destined to shelter their infamy under their country's flag, we may rejoice that their occupation, so at war with the true interests not only of Africa, but of mankind, must forever incur the condemnation of the civilized world. Nor in justice to its profound convictions of duty to the human race, can this Society fail to express its admiration of the able and arduous labors commenced in youth and protracted to age, in both America and Europe, of a distinguished son of Virginia, a Vice President of this Society, the Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer, to secure the denunciation of the African slave trade as piracy by the law of nations.

Thankful to the Supreme Ruler in all human affairs for the measure of success which has attended our efforts, let us see the wisdom of his Providence, both in the combination of causes, as well as in the ordering of particular events. In the late discoveries of the great geographical features of Africa, her various and abundant resources, her populous tribes and nations, in the

Conclusion.

multiplication of missionary stations and missionary laborers, on nearly all parts of her coast, and far into the interior, in her wrongs and her sins, her misery and her capacity, in her dark and bloody history, her exiled children, and her opening gates, let us discern signs of her redemption, and motives for our beneficence. For long ages is our work. It may stand while the world stands. Let the people of the United States see and feel its glory. Sensible that the greatest trust for humanity is committed to their hands, let them hasten to invite the broken tribes and mighty nations of Africa from her deserts and her thickets, from her gloomy forests and darker habitations of cruelty into the dominions of christian law and the fold of God.

*The Receipts of the Society, from January 1, to December 31, 1856,
are as follows :*

Maine - - - -	\$1,719 37	Included in the fore-	
New Hampshire, - - -	1,130 01	going statement are the	
Vermont, - - - -	303 66	following items:	
Massachusetts, - - -	1,422 34	Balance of legacy of Au-	
Rhode Island, - - -	2,125 10	gustus Graham, which	
Connecticut, - - - -	9,233 30	amount has been in-	
New York, - - - -	24,371 41	vested in the stock of	
New Jersey, - - - -	3,261 46	the Corporation of Al-	
Pennsylvania, - - -	4,286 49	exandria, Va., - - -	\$5,000 00
Delaware, - - - -	249 97	Leaving amount of lega-	
Maryland, - - - -	405 97	cies received for the	
District of Columbia, -	593 61	general purposes of	
Virginia, - - - -	10,000 00	the Society, - - -	9,675 84
North Carolina, - - -	968 59	Legacy of \$10,000 from	
South Carolina, - - -	129 00	the estate of the late	
Georgia, - - - -	5,323 30	T. S. Howland, for	
Alabama, - - - -	1,112 50	the emancipation of	
Florida, - - - -	62 60	slaves and their trans-	
Mississippi, - - - -	2,177 00	portation to Liberia,	
Louisiana, - - - -	871 00	(credited to emigrant	
Texas, - - - -	6 00	account,) - - - -	10,000 00
Arkansas, - - - -	1 00	Amount received from	
Tennessee, - - - -	1,611 00	other sources in pay-	
Kentucky, - - - -	4,436 00	ment for emigrants	
Ohio, - - - -	2,687 27	sent to Liberia during	
Indiana, - - - -	34 00	the year, - - - -	22,676 09
Illinois, - - - -	543 08	Amounts received di-	
Missouri, - - - -	313 48	rectly from State So-	
Michigan, - - - -	3 50	cieties—N. Y. \$5,000;	
Iowa, - - - -	3 00	N. J. \$2,835; Penn'a	
Wisconsin, - - - -	806 32	\$1,772.40; Virginia	
California, - - - -	1 00	\$1,799.75, - - - -	9,799 75
Choctaw Nation, - - -	188 50	Leaving amount report-	
Liberia, - - - -	1 00	ed by agents and	
Freight, - - - -	211 51	otherwise received, -	22,102 47
Do. - - - -	842 07		
	81,388 41		

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fortieth Annual Meeting of this Society was held, according to adjournment, at the office of the Society in Washington City, on the 20th of January, 1857. The President of the Society, J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq., in the chair.—The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. B. J. HAIGHT, D. D., of New York.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read.

J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq., was elected President of the Society; and the Vice Presidents of the last year, were re-elected with the additional names of JOHN KNICKERBACKER, of New York, and RICHARD HOFF, of Georgia.

Owing to the great inclemency of the weather, but few of the Directors or friends of the Society were present, and much doubt existing whether the gentlemen expected to speak at the public meeting would arrive in time, the Society adjourned to the third Tuesday in Jan., 1858, at 7 o'clock, p. m., with the understanding that should it be deemed expedient to hold the public meeting, the Society should meet for that purpose, at the call of the Executive Committee or Board of Directors. The minutes were then read and approved, and the meeting closed with prayer.

The public meeting of the Society took place on Thursday evening, January 23d, 1857, in Wesley Chapel, at 7 o'clock, when the President, J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq., took the chair. At the request of the President, the Rev. J. N. DANFORTH, D. D., invoked the Divine blessing upon the Society, and upon the proceedings of the occasion. The Annual Report was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. GURLEY.

From the financial branch of the report it appears that the receipts of the Society for the past year were \$81,347, and expenditures \$79,394, leaving a balance of \$1,952 to the credit of the treasury.

The Rev. Dr. CUMMINS addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech, in which he showed that by God's providence the sable African is indissolubly linked to the car of the Anglo-American, to be borne forward at length through toil and labor to a useful and happy destiny in his native Africa. In the course of his remarks Dr. Cummins alluded to the name of "Liberia" as having been due to the invention of the present President, Mr. Latrobe. After Dr. C. had concluded—

Mr. LATROBE rose and asked to place that matter right, and thus to disclaim the paternity of the title. He said that when he was, many years ago, a student of law in the office of Gen. Robert Goodloe Harper, a warm friend of Liberia, Dr. Eli Ayres, who had accompanied Captain Stockton at the purchase of Cape Mesurado from the natives, and who was a frequent visitor at the office, was asked by General Harper to give him some idea of the geography, &c., of the same. This Dr. Ayres did, by marking the capes, bays, &c., on a sheet of paper with one of his finger nails. From these very rough elements, Mr. Latrobe, at General Harper's request, prepared a map, which being corrected according to Dr. Ayres' memory, was placed in the hands of Mr. Cone, then an engraver in Baltimore, but since an eminent Baptist minister. The map when engraved needed "lettering," and a proof was sent to General Harper for

Name of Liberia.

the purpose. The General proposed that as Mr. Latrobe had prepared the map, he should, at all events, unite in naming the principal places and features of it; and it was agreed that this should be done alternately, General Harper beginning. The first thing to be fixed was the name of the country; and several were proposed, and amongst them "Fredonia;" but all were objectionable for some reason or other, when General Harper asked what was the Latin word for a "free man." Finding that it was "Liber," he then asked why it would not do to call the colony Liberia? He was answered that it would do exceedingly well, and the name was accordingly adopted. In his turn Mr. Latrobe proposed "Monroe" as the name of the capital of Liberia, to which General Harper objected, as it was not Latinized like the name of the country itself. It was easy then to make the name "Monrovia," and so it has since stood.

These interesting statements, told by Mr. Latrobe in a very pleasant way, were received with hearty cheers.

The meeting was then closed by a benediction from the Rev. Mr. GURLEY.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THE Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society met the 20th January, 1857, at 12 o'clock M., in the Aldermen's Room, in the City Hall, City of Washington.

On account of the extreme inclemency of the weather, but few delegates were present. A quorum, however, being in attendance, the Board proceeded to business.

Rev. Dr. Haight, of New York, in the absence of the President, was chosen chairman, and Rev. G. W. Samson, of the District of Columbia, secretary *pro tem*.

Prayer was offered by Rev. R. R. Gurley.

Rev. W. McLain, Rev. Dr. Smith, and Rev. Dr. G. D. Cummins, were appointed the committee on credentials, who reported the following delegates present, viz:

Rev. B. J. Haight, D. D., from the New York State Colonization Society;—Rev. G. D. Cummins, D. D., Rev. J. C. Smith, D. D., and Rev. D. S. Doggett, D. D., from the Virginia Colonization Society;—and Rev. B. Sunderland, D. D., from the Society of the District of Columbia.

Rev. W. McLain and Rev. R. R. Gurley, Life Directors, and W. Gunton, Esq., and Rev. G. W. Samson, members of the Executive Committee, were present.

On motion of Rev. Mr. McLain, the reading of the proceedings of the last annual meeting of the Board was postponed until the next session of the Board.

After some conference, on motion, it was voted, That, on account of the absence of the appointed speakers, from the inclemency of the weather, the public meeting of the Society, this evening, be postponed till further notice.

On motion, voted, That the further business before the Board be postponed.

On motion, the Board adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

G. W. SAMSON, *Sec'y pro tem*.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 21, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met according to adjournment.

President Latrobe appeared and took the chair.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Maclean, the minutes of the session yesterday were read and approved.

The Rev. G. W. Samson having declined to act further as secretary, on account of pastoral engagements, the Rev. Dr. B. J. Haight, of New York, was elected Secretary of the Board.

The following delegates appeared and took their seats, viz: Hon. J. A. Rockwell and Hon. L. F. S. Foster, from the Connecticut Colonization Society; Rev. John Maclean, D. D., Life Director, and delegate from the New Jersey Colonization Society; Rev. J. B. Pinney, Life Director, and delegate from the New York State Colonization Society, and Rufus Reed, Esq., delegate from said Society; and Joseph H. Bradley, Esq., of the Executive Committee.

Standing Committees.

On motion, the reading of the proceedings of the last annual meeting, and of the adjourned meeting in March, was dispensed with.

The annual Report of the Society was then read by the Rev. R. R. Gurley, Corresponding Secretary.

The annual Statement of the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors was then read by the Rev. W. McLain, Financial Secretary; and, on motion, was laid upon the table for the present.

The following communication was received and read:

COLONIZATION OFFICE, INDIANA,
Indianapolis, Jan. 13, 1857.

The President and Board of Directors of the A. C. S.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Rev. James Mitchell, the Secretary of our State Board of Colonization, will represent our views and wishes in regard to the enterprise of colonization, so far as you may wish to know our views thereon.

Yours respectfully,

ASHBEL P. WILLARD,
Pres. State Board of Colonization.

JOHN W. DODD,
Auditor of State.

DANIEL M'CLURE,
Secretary of State.

Whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, That Rev. James Mitchell be invited to a seat in this Board during its present session.

The President announced the Standing Committees of the Board in part, as follows:

Committee on Foreign Relations—Rev. Dr. Maclean, of N. J., Rev. Dr. Sanderland, and Mr. Underwood.

Committee on Accounts—Messrs. Pinney, Rockwell, and Cummins.

Committee on Agencies—Messrs. Gurley, Samson, and Reed.

The following communication was received, read, and on motion referred to the Standing Committee on Agencies:

WASHINGTON Jan. 22, 1857.

To the President and Board of Directors of the A. C. S.

GENTLEMEN: We respectfully represent, that it is the intention of the Indiana State Board of Colonization, to immediately put in motion a system of active agencies in our State, and as it is desirable that harmony should exist between all the friends of African colonization, we hope that it will appear advisable and prudent in your estimation, to grant us the entire field in said State; in which event our officers and agents shall strictly account to you for all funds donated through them to your Society by such persons as may wish to give that direction to their donations.

Yours respectfully,

J. MITCHELL,
Cor. Sec. Ind. State Board of Col'n.

On motion, the Statement of the Executive Committee was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That the whole subject of the Society's ship, the *Mary Caroline Stevens*, as presented in the Statement of the Executive Committee, and in the annual Report, be referred to a special committee.

* Rev. J. B. Pinney, Rev. Dr. Maclean, and Rev. W. McLain, were appointed said committee.

Mary Caroline Stevens.

On motion of Rev. G. D. Cummins,

Resolved, That the anniversary meeting of the Society be held to-morrow evening at half past seven o'clock.

The minutes of this morning's session were read and approved.

On motion, the Board then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, Jan. 22, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. President Latrobe in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Gurley.

Hon. W. L. Underwood and Rev. A. M. Cowan, delegates from the Kentucky Colonization Society, appeared and took their seats.

The President laid before the Board the following report from the trustees of the ship *Mary Caroline Stevens*:

To the Board of Directors of the Am. Col. Society:

The undersigned, two of the trustees appointed by the late John Stevens, of Talbot county, Maryland, under a deed dated on the 26th February, 1856, and to whom was transferred the fund of \$36,000 which he gave, that a ship might be built for the use of the Society, beg leave to make the following report:

The facts connected with the donation, the building, the launching, and the sailing on her first voyage of the ship in question, called, as desired by Mr. Stevens, after his daughter—the *Mary Caroline Stevens*—are so well known to the Board that it is unnecessary, here, to recapitulate them. The report of Dr. James Hall, one of the trustees, and their special representative in the details of their proceedings, and the disbursement of their funds, is appended hereto, and will afford the information which, at this time, may be desirable. The trustees have not yet collected all the securities assigned to them by Mr. Stevens, and until this is done, their accounts must necessarily remain open, and it will not be in their power to make a final report. They have reason to believe, however, that it will not be long before their collections will be completed, when they propose, in addition to the report which will then be made, to hand to the Board a volume which they have had prepared, and in which will be found recorded, not only their own proceedings, but the entire correspondence, as well that which was held with Mr. Stevens, by any person touching his donation, as that which grew, otherwise, out of the duties of the trustees; the whole forming a narrative not without its interest, and which, the trustees feel sure, will be preserved among the archives of the Board as bearing honorable testimony to the character and liberality of a GENTLEMAN OF MARYLAND.

In the interim, however, there is one point to which the trustees desire to call the attention of the Board. The trust they hold, they look upon as technical in its terms and character, now that the vessel has been built and is in charge of a captain appointed by the Board, to which she was in fact delivered by the trustees when he took possession of her. This being so, the future management of the ship, in port and out of port, will devolve on the Board and the Executive Committee; and the trustees, while they continue in existence as holding the legal title to the ship, and for the purpose of seeing her appropriated to the uses for which she was built, respectfully suggest that she may be considered by the Board as hereafter under the charge of the American Colonization Society; on which devolves, through its proper officers, to carry out, in her use, the intentions of the donor.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE,

Chairman, &c.

On motion, this report was referred to the special committee on the Society's ship.

The President announced the remainder of the Standing Committees, as follows:

Foreign Relations.

Committee on Finance—Messrs. W. McLain, Doggett, and Cowan.

Committee on Auxiliary Societies—Messrs. Cummins, McLain, and Rockwell.

Committee on Emigration—Messrs. Tracy, Gurley, and Samson.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Pinney, the annual Report of the Society was referred to a special committee of three, for revision, with a view to its publication, and to designate portions to be read at the anniversary celebration this evening.

Rev. Mr. Pinney, Dr. Maclean, and Mr. Reed, were appointed said committee.

Rev. Mr. Gurley submitted the following resolution, which, on his motion, was laid upon the table for the present:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be informed that, in the view of this Board, American commerce as well as humanity, are deeply interested in the prosecution and completion by the government of the explorations of the countries interior from Liberia, as commenced under direction of the Navy Department by Lt. Lynch, and that it be respectfully suggested to the Hon. Secretary, that should he be pleased to instruct the commander of our squadron on the African coast, alone or in company with some duly appointed agent of the government, to visit and examine various points of that coast, to ascertain the nature of the harbors and rivers, the character of the people, the productions and resources of the countries thus visited, their advantages for trade, and make full report on these subjects to the government, great benefit might be secured to our commerce and to the cause of African civilization.

The Standing Committee on Agencies presented a report upon the communication from the Corresponding Secretary of the Indiana State Board of Colonization.

It having been moved to accept this report, after a very long discussion, the Rev. Mr. Samson moved to refer the whole subject back to the committee for further consideration, to which motion the Board did not agree.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Haight, the further consideration of the motion to accept the report was postponed until this afternoon.

The Rev. Dr. Maclean presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Foreign Relations:

The Committee on Foreign Relations respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions—

1. *Resolved*, That this Board have learned, with the highest satisfaction, that a treaty of commerce and amity has been recently made by the Governments of Liberia and Cape Palmas; and they indulge the hope, that this treaty is the precursor of a closer alliance between these two governments; and that a federal government, after the model of that of the United States, and like the latter capable of indefinite expansion, will soon be organized by the free and independent states already established upon the western coast of Africa.

2. *Resolved*, That it is a source of unfeigned delight to the friends of African colonization, that the Republic of Liberia has received from several of the leading governments of Europe assurances of their friendly feelings; and that the Republic has been enabled to form with these governments, and also with the free cities of Europe, treaties of commerce, upon the most liberal terms.

3. *Resolved*, That this Board feel assured that the kindest feelings are entertained by the people of the United States towards the Republics of Western Africa; and that the time is not far distant when our government will give more direct evidence of these kind feelings than they have yet done, by a distinct recognition of the independence of these Republics:—the delay in this matter not being the result of any hostile feeling on the part of our people and government to these Republics, but arising from the peculiar state of things for a few years past among ourselves.

Report of Committee on Agencies.—Accounts.

On motion, the report was accepted, and the resolutions recommended therein adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That when this Board adjourn it adjourn to meet in the Colonization Rooms this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

The Board then, on motion, adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Jan. 22, 5 o'clock P. M.

The Board met according to adjournment.

The minutes of this morning's session were read and approved.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Agencies relative to the application from the Secretary of the Indiana Board.

On motion, the report was referred back to the committee, who subsequently presented their report as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the letter of Mr. Mitchell, Secretary of the State Colonization Board of Indiana, respectfully report, that existing, as there ever has done, very friendly relations between this Board and that in Indiana, it has not been supposed that the agent appointed for that State would interfere with any arrangements of the Indiana Board; that it is understood that the Indiana Board designs to act through and mainly by the agency of this Society, in the colonization enterprise; and therefore, before any decided action on the proposal made by Mr. Mitchell is taken, it is important that the Board should ascertain more fully the exact plans of the State Board.

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Board recognize it as a settled principle of their action to allow each State Society auxiliary to the American Colonization Society, to take the entire charge and control of the collection of funds, including the appointing of agents, within its own borders.

Resolved, That this Board will learn with pleasure of the resuscitation of the Indiana State Colonization Society, or of the formation of a new state auxiliary society in that State, and will cheerfully accord thereto the right specified in the preceding resolution.

R. R. GURLEY, *Chairman*.

On motion, the report was accepted, and the resolutions recommended therein were adopted.

The Standing Committee on Accounts presented the following report:

Your committee having examined the vouchers of the Treasurer, find them correct so far as the cash account is stated, and not doubting the bonds and cash on hand to be correctly stated, have certified the same.

They would append three suggestions, in the form of resolutions, as follows:

First. Resolved, That the financial year shall close on the 20th day of December of each year.

Secondly. Resolved, That whatever funds are received by the Treasurer for the use of the Society be carefully and fully reported each month in the African Repository.

Thirdly. Resolved, That in all cases where State Societies, in co-operation and with consent of the Executive Committee of this Society, fit out expeditions or expend money for education, or in any other appropriate way, the same when reported with satisfactory vouchers shall be entered by the Treasurer as a cash account, both on the credit and debtor side.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. E. PINNEY.

To balances due the Society, as per last report - - - -	\$19,067 35	By balances due by the Society, as per last report - - - -	\$11,687 54
Receipts from the following sources, to wit:		Payments for the following objects, to wit:	
Donations - - - - -	31,902 22	Graham legacy in part, included in balances due by the Society	5 000 00
Legacies \$14,675.84, less \$5,000 special legacy in part of Augustus		Contingent expenses—paper and printing the Annual Report, &c.	695 40
Graham, invested - - - - -	9,675 84	Profit and loss account - - - - -	1,357 15
Emigrants - - - - -	33,145 21	Expense account—compensation of agents employed in collecting	
African Repository - - - - -	958 69	funds, &c. - - - - -	9,247 64
Profit and loss account - - - - -	120 51	Office expenses—salaries of Secretaries, rent of office, fuel, stationery, postage, &c. - - - - -	6,063 17
Contingent account - - - - -	1 48	Paper and printing the African Repository, including the preceding year - - - - -	4,390 86
Freight and cabin passage in ship Mary C. Stevens - - - -	842 07	Salaries of Physicians in Liberia - - - - -	3,030 00
Total receipts, including the above balances - - - - -	101,713 37	Two Burntized Receptacles sent to Liberia, in the ship Elvira Owen, including freight on same - - - - -	10,765 00
Balances due by the Society - - - - -	24,136 74	Charter of vessels, and outfit and support of emigrants, not including amounts of invoices sent to agents in Liberia (\$18,752.51) which amounts are included in the balances due the Society	27,140 85
		Expenses of fitting out ship M. C. Stevens - - - - -	8,633 58
		Total expenditures, including the above balances - - - - -	86,011 19
		Old accounts closed - - - - -	\$3,585 45
		Balances due the Society, including amounts of invoices sent to agents in Liberia (\$18,752.51) for the support of emigrants - - - - -	34 259 85
		Cash on hand - - - - -	1,993 62
			39,838 92
	\$125,850 11		\$125,850 11

Note.—Included in the above total receipts on account of emigrants are \$4,000 freight on the two receptacles sent to Liberia, and \$2,257.61 in the settlement of Liberian accounts, making \$6,257.61 to be deducted from the aggregate receipts, leaving the sum of \$76,388.41 as the total receipts of the Society during the past year.

The following named certificates of stock and bonds are held by this Society, as will appear by reference to the Stock Book, viz: Ten *preferred bonds* of the *Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company* for \$1,000 each; also *certificate* of said company for \$1,200, being amount of accrued interest from January 1, 1852 to January 1, 1854; (two years;) which bonds are on special deposit in the Bank of Washington, as *collateral security* for the payment of \$5,000 borrowed from the Graham legacy; also *certificate* for one share of \$100 in the capital stock of the *Stock-bridge and Pittsfield Railroad Company*, from which the Society receives an annual dividend of seven per cent.; also *six coupon bonds* of the *Corporation of Alexandria, Va.*, for \$1,000 each, which were purchased with the \$5,000 balance of the Graham legacy, and which are held in trust by this Society for educational purposes in Liberia, agreeably to the will of the late Augustus Graham; and, by order of the Executive Committee, the 10th October, 1856, have been placed on special deposit in the Bank of Washington.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, *Washington City*, January 1, 1857.

The Committee on accounts have examined the Treasurer's Account, for the past year, and compared it with the proper vouchers, and find the same correct.

WASHINGTON CITY, January 21st, 1857.

J. B. PINNEY,
GEO. D. CUMMINS.

 Officers.—Report on the Ship.

On motion, the report was accepted, and the resolutions proposed were adopted.

The special committee on the Annual Report presented the following report, which was adopted:

The committee have read the whole Report with great interest, and would recommend that the same be referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

They recommend that the Corresponding Secretary be requested to read such portions at the meeting this evening as may in his judgment be most interesting.

They would further recommend that the total sums contributed by each State through the year 1856, be published in connection with the Annual Report.

J. B. PINNEY.

On motion, a committee was appointed to nominate Secretaries and the Executive Committee for the ensuing year.

The Rev. Drs. Sunderland, Doggett, and Haight, were appointed said committee.

The committee nominated the following named gentlemen, who were duly elected:

Corresponding Secretary, Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

Financial Secretary, Rev. W. McLAIN.

Taveling Secretary, Rev. JOHN ORCUTT.

Recording Secretary, J. W. LUGENBEEL, M. D.

Executive Committee, HARVEY LINDSLY, M. D., Hon. E. WHITTLESEY, JOSEPH H. BRADLEY, Esq., A. O. DAYTON, Esq., WILLIAM GUNTON, Esq., W. W. SEATON, Esq., Rev. GEORGE W. SAMSON.

The special committee on the Society's ship presented the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions appended thereto were adopted:

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Annual Report and the Statement of the Executive Committee as relates to the new packet ship, report,

That in the narrative of events connected with this generous gift, which marks an era in the Society's affairs, they find occasion of gratitude to God and of gratulation among the friends of colonization, as well as special cause of admiration toward the liberal benefactor of the Society, and toward the unanimous disinterestedness of those influential friends of colonization in Maryland who co-operated in securing the donation in trust to this Society.

As a permanent expression of the sentiments entertained by the Board of Directors on this subject, the committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That this Board have learned with the greatest pleasure, that the noble and generous purpose of the late John Stevens, deceased, to place at the disposal of this Board a new and valuable ship to ply between the United States and Liberia, has been fully carried into effect; and that the Mary Caroline Stevens has sailed upon her first voyage, with the prayers and the best wishes of the friends of the colonization cause.

Resolved, That this Board tender their heartiest thanks to Messrs. John H. B. Latrobe, Elisha Whittlesey, and James Hall, Trustees of the Stevens donation, for their most valuable services in carrying into effect the instructions of the late Mr. Stevens, with respect to the disbursement of funds entrusted to their care for the building of the vessel, to be held by them in trust for the American Colonization Society.

Resolved, That this Board take great pleasure in expressing their obligations to the Managers of the Maryland Colonization Society—to Messrs. F. W. Brune, Thomas Wilson, and other friends in Baltimore, for their liberal contributions, and for the lively interest they have manifested in the building and in the equipment of the Society's vessel.

Resolutions.

Resolved, That this Board highly approves of the action of the Executive Committee in insuring the Mary Caroline Stevens, for the sum of forty thousand dollars; and that the Committee be instructed to continue the insurance from year to year, to the full value of the ship.

Resolved, That the Committee be instructed to employ Dr. James Hall, or some other suitable person, at Baltimore, as an agent to have the charge of the Mary Caroline Stevens; for such commissions as may be agreed upon by the agent and Committee.

Resolved, That the Board record with very great pleasure their deep gratitude toward their liberal benefactor, the late John Stevens, of Talbot County, Maryland; for his generous response to our appeal for a fund to build a Liberia Packet for the use of the Society, by a donation of thirty-six thousand dollars.

Resolved, That the disinterested and protracted services of Dr. James Hall, agent of the Maryland Colonization Society, in superintending the building of the packet, are acknowledged as having laid the Society under weighty obligations, and eminently entitling him to our thanks.

J. B. PINNEY, *Chairman*.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the salaries of the Corresponding and Financial Secretaries for the ensuing year be referred to the Executive Committee, with power.

The Board then took a recess in order to attend the anniversary celebration of the Society.

The Board re-assembled, after the public exercises in Wesley Chapel.

On motion of Rev. J. B. Pinney, it was

Resolved, That this Board recognise in the liberal contributions to aid and develop the culture and manufacture of sugar in Liberia made by H. M. Scheiffelin, Esq., of New York, to whom Liberia is chiefly indebted for the first steam sugar mill, and for many articles for farming purposes, such as waggons, carts, yokes, chains, &c., shipped by him to Liberia in 1856, an instance of the highest beneficence towards Liberia and in a direction of the very first importance.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be presented to the Secretaries of the Society and the Executive Committee, for their valuable and efficient services.

The resolution offered by the Rev. Mr. Gurley, this morning, proposing a communication to the Secretary of the Navy, in reference to explorations in Africa, was called up, and adopted; and the Executive Committee were instructed to take the necessary steps for carrying it into effect.

A report from Capt. George Barker, an agent of the Society, was presented, and referred to the Executive Committee.

The minutes of this evening's session were then read and approved.

After prayer, offered by Rev. Mr. Pinney, the Board adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN H. B. LATROBE,
President.

BENJ. J. HAIGHT, *Secretary*.

Report of the Traveling Secretary.

Extracts from Capt. George Barker's Report.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 1857.

Gentlemen and Friends:—You have my report of agency for the American Colonization Society for the year 1856. I have collected in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine, the following sums, viz:—

		<i>Repository.</i>	<i>Donations.</i>
Rhode Island,	- - -	\$181.00	\$1,791.00
Massachusetts,	- - -	17.00	126.00
New Hampshire,	- - -	133.00	255.00
Maine,	- - -	96.00	1,244.37
		<u>427.00</u>	<u>3,416.47</u>

Making a total of \$3,543.47. I have received as compensation \$947.82. My expenses, viz: postage, stationery, publishing, board, and traveling expenses, \$424.74, which leaves me for self and family support \$523 08.

I have sent the Secretary of the Society \$2,895.65. I wish it was quadrupled. There is an increasing interest in the good cause; had it not been for the agitated late presidential campaign more money would have been realized. There is abundant occasion for gratitude that the Society has been so highly prospered; a fine new ship, over four hundred good emigrants, two large Receptacles, and the highly interesting and prosperous position of the Republic of Liberia, not keeping out of sight the College frame sent from Boston. The work you are engaged in is a holy work, and I trust the Lord will enable you to consummate it. * * * * *

Report of Rev. John Orcutt, Traveling Secretary.

HARTFORD, CONN., January 15, 1857.

Rev. R. R. Gurley, Cor. Sec. A. C. S.

DEAR SIR:—As Traveling Secretary of the American Colonization Society, the Board of Directors will expect from me a report of my labors the past year.

Owing to a failure to obtain a suitable person to take my place as agent for Connecticut until September, it seemed desirable that I should spend a considerable portion of the first half of the year as collecting agent in this State. The amount contributed in the State during this period was \$3,660.62.

The appropriation made by the State in 1853, for the transportation of emigrants to Liberia, being chiefly expended, an application was made to the legislature at its last session for another similar appropriation, which was granted in a sum of \$1,000—giving for the transportation and benefit of each emigrant seventy-five dollars, instead of fifty as before provided.

Though Connecticut has participated with the other states in the political excitements of the year, which for the time operated against us, she has furnished two valuable emigrants, and has paid into your treasury, including a legacy of \$5,000, between nine and ten thousand dollars; and by the judicious and faithful labors of the Rev. Wm. Warren, who has succeeded me, we may confidently expect the state fully to sustain any charitable reputation she has acquired in this behalf.

Report of the Traveling Secretary.

My labors out of Connecticut have been confined to the other New England States, and it gives me great pleasure to be able to say, I have been treated with much respect and kindness wherever I have been, and have found many warm friends to sympathise and co-operate with me in the work. To all such I would here tender my most hearty thanks.

On account of the excited state of the public mind, it was thought best to defer any attempt to form new societies, or to do much by way of public address unless it be on the Sabbath. To collect an audience during the week merely for colonization purposes, was found to be no easy thing. While, therefore, I have endeavored to keep the cause favorably before the community by publishing interesting facts connected with its progress, and by a free distribution of printed documents on the subject, it has been my leading object to reach as many people as I could by public address on the Sabbath; and I have been permitted to present the cause in some of its aspects to fifty or more of the largest congregations in New England—usually preaching twice, and often three times, the same day. I have visited for this purpose, and have been admitted into important churches in Providence, Newport, Brunswick, Portland, Manchester, Concord, Burlington, Middlebury, Castleton, Brattleboro', Springfield, Worcester, Charlestown, Cambridge, and Boston—not to mention several smaller towns where I have been welcomed.

In most of these churches the subject had not been presented for many years, in some of them, never.

In regard to obtaining funds, the last has been the hardest year I have experienced in the service—not so much from a want of interest in the cause as from an excess of interest in something else. The whole amount of my collections falls a little short of \$5,000; a portion of which was paid into the treasury of State societies where it was collected, and not reported by me to the Parent Society.

By special invitation I was present and made an address at the annual meeting of the Maine State Colonization Society at Bath. Also at a meeting of the Methodist Conference held at Gardiner, Bishop Waugh presiding.

This Conference embraces about half of the State, and was fully attended. I was kindly allowed by that body to occupy one hour and a half in the advocacy of the cause. I also attended and addressed the anniversary of the Vermont State Colonization Society at Montpelier, at which, it gives me pleasure to state, the Rev. J. K. Converse was appointed their agent. Mr. Converse will devote his time to the work, and from his thorough acquaintance with the subject, and his high reputation in the state, there is every reason to expect that the cause will prosper in that community. I have been present and allowed a word in favor of the object at several other public gatherings; but I regard my Sabbath efforts as by far the most efficient for good. This remark I would have cover the entire period of my agency. Each succeeding year of service has deepened the conviction that little comparatively can be accomplished in behalf of the cause without access to the pulpit on the Sabbath.

There is a view of the subject adapted to disabuse the mind of prejudice and awaken an interest, which is, at the same time, congenial with the holy day. If this view could be presented in every pulpit, the work would go forward with greatly increased progress. We need a preaching and a col-

Report of the Traveling Secretary.

lecting agency: they may or may not be combined in the same person; but let the *sower* go before the *reaper*. One reason why Boston has not doubled and quadrupled her contributions to this object is, the people need light which can be imparted only from the pulpit—for the very good reason, they can be reached nowhere else. The same is true of other places. I believe there is much land yet to be possessed by us mainly through the pulpit. Would that each pastor felt a sufficient interest in the cause to build the portion of the wall over against his own house. It has been intimated that one very respectable denomination of christians in Connecticut will soon undertake this work. May others do likewise!

I do confidently anticipate better times. I shall be disappointed if the receipts of the Society should not be much increased the coming year. In my apprehension, the public mind is prepared to look at this matter of colonization with more favor; and it seems to me that the interesting events connected with its progress the past year, are themselves most eloquent appeals in its behalf. Few have been the years of its history, containing more to encourage and less to dishearten its friends. It is true the Society has been obliged to contend with pecuniary embarrassment and some other undesirable things; but these should be regarded as mere eddies in a stream whose course is onward.

What great scheme of philanthropy has had fewer obstacles to encounter?

African colonization, be it remembered, is no longer a mere abstract theory; it is a practical reality; a great fact, standing out in bold relief for the inspection and instruction of the civilized world. The first chapters of its history are given to the present generation; the remaining ones are reserved for the perusal and admiration of generations to come.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your humble servant,

JNO. OLCUTT.

APPENDIX.

Exploration of the Niger.

REV. THOMAS JEFFERSON ROWEN'S LETTER TO THE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE author of this letter has greatly distinguished himself by his bold and persevering exploration of a region of Africa hitherto but little known, and by his wise measures to plant the Christian Church amid the populous cities of Yoruba. We trust the information he brings from that country, and the views he submits of its commercial resources, will secure from our government the object he deems so important—AN EXPLORATION OF THE NIGER.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 4, 1857.

DEAR SIR:—

Your note of yesterday has been brought in this morning, and I proceed at once to answer your enquiries.

The extensive country of Sudan, or Central Africa, lying on both sides of the Niger, is very different in most respects from Western Africa, or Guinea. The surface of the country is generally undulating, the soil more or less productive, the streams numerous, clear and rocky, and the scenery beautiful. Most of the country is open and grassy, with scattering trees, which give it very much the appearance of the muskit prairies in western Texas.

So far as I have seen and heard from native travelers, there are no chains of mountains of considerable length; but short chains and patches of mountainous hills are common in some districts, and we frequently meet with isolated hills, some of which are immense masses of granite, arising abruptly from the plain. The elevation of the land, as we proceed from the coast, is gradual, so as to be favorable to the opening of roads, and yet so rapid that Captain Clapperton saw frost and ice in the Hausa country within twelve degrees of the equator. The Pulo (or Fellatah) people, who inhabit that country, have told me of ice, which they call *galada*. Wheat is a common crop on the table lands of Hausa and Kani (or Burnu.)

The people of Sudan are of two classes, called in that country "black men" and "red men." The latter may be described as woolly-headed Indians.— They are numerous on both sides of the Niger, amounting perhaps in all to twenty or thirty millions. Some of them, as the Pulos, are Mohammedans, but others, mentioned by Caillé, like many of the blacks in Sudan, are heathen. Central Africa includes numerous kingdoms, most of which acknowledge the authority of the Pulo Emperor, who resides at Sokoto. These countries are generally populous. Some of their numerous towns are very extensive, but we can scarcely make a satisfactory conjecture as to the number of inhabitants.

Abbeokuta, about sixty miles from the sea, in the little kingdom of Egba, has been measured. It is nearly four miles in length, from one and a half to three miles in breadth, and perhaps twelve miles in circuit. Our estimates of the population vary from sixty thousand to one hundred thousand. Between Abbeokuta and the Niger, that is, within a distance of one hundred and sixty

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miles, there are more than a dozen large towns, some of which are more populous than Abbeckuta. The greatest of these in reputation, if not in size, is Ilorin, the capital of a little Puloh kingdom of the same name. Here are many red or light colored people, and thousands of men who can read and write Arabic, the only kind of writing known in Sudan. Large towns are found in Barba (or Borghoo), Nufe, Jakobu, Hausa Kanike, and various other kingdoms. But according to the people of Ilorin, the largest of all African towns is Ohwoh, six days' journey (say one hundred miles) beyond the Niger. We have not yet been able to visit this town, owing to the pressure of other business.

Central African houses are built in Moorish style, large and low, with many rooms opening into an interior court. The walls are made of clay, which bakes hard in the sun, and the roofs are generally thatched with grass. A single house contains from twenty to one hundred persons. In some respects the Sudanese are considerably advanced from mere barbarism. Whether heathens or Mohammedans, they are clad in trowsers and tunics. They are remarkably courteous in their social intercourse. Their women do not labor in the farms. Several rude arts are commonly practiced, as the smelting of iron, and in some places of copper and lead; the manufacture of hoes, axes, adzes, knives, and swords; the spinning of cotton and silk, (the latter a new article worthy of our better acquaintance,) weaving and tailoring, both of which are regular professions; dying blue, yellow and red; soap making; brewing corn and millet; making palm and grass hats; also saddles, bridles and sandals, and a sort of shoes and boots. Three towns in Nufe have the art of working in glass, and they produce an article which it is said cannot be successfully imitated in Europe.

But the great business of the people is agriculture, in which they are far more skillful and industrious than we have supposed. The farms of some large cities extend to a distance of twenty-five miles from the town walls. The principal crops are Indian corn, the same as our own, and the tropical yam. But they also plant cotton, sugar cane, beans and peas, sweet potatoes, cassava, ground peas, ginger, red pepper, &c., and the country is admirably adapted to coffee and other tropical productions of great value to the civilized world. The domestic animals are the same as our own; a fine breed of cattle, two kinds of sheep, the bearded ram being peculiar to that country, goats, hogs, horses, asses, &c. Some of the horses brought to Ilorin by the Moors and Arabs, have sold, as I am assured, for one thousand dollars, but the price of a pony varies from fifteen to thirty dollars.

The Sudanese are not an indolent people. They rise early, and their daily markets are stocked with provisions, animals and all other articles known in the country. Another great branch of industry in Sudan is traffic. In my first journey to Ilorin I traveled with a caravan of traders, which could not have numbered much less than three thousand persons. Large caravans are constantly arriving at Ilorin from all directions, and the same is going on at all the other great centres of Central African trade. Their merchandise consists of innumerable things provided in the country, from the simple water gourd to the large elephant's tooth which it requires two men to carry; and of many articles from Europe and America, from the tobacco pipe to the piece of red velvet worth sixty dollars. Some of the principal exports from Sudan, if the trade were opened, would be gold, ivory, gums, palm-oil, vegetable butter,

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hides, cinnamon, and indigo of unrivalled quality. Some of the imports would be various kinds of cloth, blankets, felt hats, coral beads and other ornaments, tobacco, which is used by every body, male and female, guns and gunpowder. All the millions of Central Africa desire to buy something, and all by one means or another could pay for it. At present the principal foreign trade of the countries beyond the Niger is carried on across the great desert by means of camels—(see McCulloch's Commercial Dictionary, and other similar authorities.) Moorish, and Arabian merchants penetrate to every part of the country and sometimes remain for years, till they have grown wealthy. I saw persons of this class at Ilorin, who professed to have been at Constantinople and Alexandria. One of them told me he had seen the flag of my country on the Mediterranean.

The people of western Sudan trade principally to the coast of Guinea. Being afraid to risk themselves among the savages along the coast, they meet them at such intermediate points as Kumasi and Gonga, and exchange the productions of Sudan for the manufactures of civilized nations. As the barbarians of Guinea derive great profit from the trade, they are anxious to preserve it, not only by keeping the Sudanese away from the coast, but by preventing white men from entering Sudan. When I attempted to reach the interior from Liberia in 1850, I met with much trouble from this jealousy, and was finally compelled to return after penetrating the country to a distance of ninety miles. This double fraud upon commerce injures both the Central African and the white man, while it is really no advantage to the Guinea man, whose debauchery and barbarism increase with the increase of his wealth.

We may hope that before many years the commerce of Central Africa will be diverted from the paths of the desert and the forests of Guinea to its apparently natural outlet, the Niger. If this, or something analogous, cannot be done, one of the finest countries within the tropics must still remain cut off from the civilized world without a development of its great natural resources.

It is still a problem, however, whether the Niger can be made available for this purpose. Perhaps its navigation may be rendered impossible by rapids; or the climate may be fatal to white men; or the people might rob and murder our traders; or the productions of the country may not be worth the cost of getting at them. All these are questions which nothing but facts can decide. Seven years ago the prospect of establishing Christian Missions in Central Africa was pronounced chimerical; nearly four years was consumed in exploration. Our line of stations, commenced three years ago, now extends to the furthest border of Yoruba, the first division of Sudan. The problem has been solved, and our hopes more than realized.

One of the steamers in Laird and Oldfields' expedition, ascended the Niger to Rabba in Nafe. With them exploration was a secondary object, and they made no attempt to proceed farther. If their design had been to explore the river to the head of navigation, they might perhaps have moored their boat at Sego or Kaba, 2,000 miles from the sea, and have returned in triumph; but now their expedition stands recorded as a paralyzing failure.

The only place at which we have reason to fear obstruction, is near Busa. Unfortunately the Landers made but few careful observations; but we learn from them that the river here is not so rapid, but that the natives are in the constant habit of paddling up it in their canoes. Lander himself went in a

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canoe from Busa to Yami, and descended thence to the sea. According to Caillé the Niger above Timbuctu is still several hundred yards in width, and affords good navigation. Park descended from above Timbuctu, in a vessel which he called a schooner, and lost his life at Busa, through the mistake of firing on the people, who are now known to be a harmless, well disposed race.

It is very probable that a light draught steamer could ascend the Niger to Sego, more than 1,500 miles from the sea, at almost any season.

The delta of the Niger is very sickly, but a steamer can soon pass through the swamps to an open and rocky country, similar to that which we now occupy in Yoruba. Laird and Oldfield, intent on buying ivory, remained far too long in the low country, and the mortality of their men is plainly attributable to other causes besides malaria. The Chadda expedition, in 1854, returned to the coast without the loss of a single man by disease or accident.

There might be some danger of an attack from the Moors at Timbuctu, but a very little powder and ball would probably bring them to terms. At the worst there could be no real danger to the steamer; and judging from the spirit of the Moors whom I have seen in Africa, those of Timbuctu would hail the arrival of the steamer with joy. There is nothing to fear from the blacks. I live among them, within sixty miles of the Niger, in perfect security of life and property. We could reside on the bank of the river in equal safety.

Neither Laird and Oldfield, nor the late Chadda Expedition, were able to make money by the adventure. The reason of the failure in this respect is very obvious. The centres of trade where the valuable commodities of the country are accumulated, are not on the Niger, but at various distances from it, in the large cities which are sustained by the caravan traffic across the desert and to the western coast. The navigation of the Niger would create new centres of trade, which would call the productions of the country to the banks of the stream, and the caravan trade to Tripoli and Guinea would be broken up. Every year would add to the civilization of the country and to the development of its resources, until finally the traffic with the millions of people in Central Africa would be worth millions of dollars per annum.

Truly yours,

T. J. BOWEN.

Hon. E. B. Washburn.

Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer.

Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer.

THIS eminent statesman and philanthropist returned, some months ago, from Europe, where he has visited many countries, and during three years, as his health and opportunities permitted, urged the vital importance, as the only effectual and permanent remedy for the African Slave Trade, of the denunciation of this traffic as *piracy by the law of nations*. Several very valuable publications were made by Mr. Mercer on this subject while abroad; and of great interest and force among them, is the following able and eloquent letter to Lord Clarendon.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

A copy of certain Resolutions of the American Colonization Society, adopted at separate general meetings thereof, in 1827 and 1855.

WHEREAS, to the affliction of the Christian world, the African slave trade, notwithstanding all the efforts to suppress it, still exists, and is conducted with enhanced profit and aggravated cruelty, by the resources of one continent, to the dishonor of another, and to an extent little short of the desolation of a third; and it has become apparent that this immoral traffic, long since prohibited by all Christian nations, will continue to exist so long as there remains a flag to cover it from detection, a market for its victims, and the African coast lies open to its incursions.

And whereas its utter abolition is essential to the security of all African labor, and its abolition, as a safeguard of African colonization, was avowed to be one of the objects of the American Society for colonizing, *with their own consent*, the free people of color of the United States, in Africa; and it has at all times, since the organization of the Society, been steadily promoted by the members and friends thereof, in the legislative councils of the Union, both State and federal.

Be it therefore resolved, That a Committee be appointed to present memorials to the sovereign authority of every maritime power of Europe and America, earnestly to solicit the denunciation of the African slave trade as piracy under the law of nations.

General Mercer, General Jones, and the Rev. Dr. Laurie, were appointed a Committee to carry into effect the foregoing Resolution.

On the 20th day of January, 1855, the following Resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors, at the last annual meeting of the American Colonization Society, in the city of Washington.

"Whereas the Board of Directors have learned that the Hon. C. F. Mercer, one of the earliest, most constant, and able friends, and a Vice President of this Society, is now visiting at his own expense, and from the noblest impulses of humanity, the governments of Europe, with the view of uniting their councils and sentiments, in such policy as shall result in the prohibition of the slave trade as piracy by the law of nations; Resolved, That the Board express their high sense of the past and present eminent services of the Hon. C. F. Mercer, in the cause of this Society, his country, and humanity, and their earnest hope that the efforts in which he is engaged may be crowned with success."

Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer.

40 ST. JAMES'S STREET, LONDON,

August 13th, 1855.

To his Excellency the Right Honorable EARL OF CLARENDON, *Secretary of Foreign Affairs* :—

MY LORD :—Allow me to hope, that the accompanying resolutions of the American Colonization Society, and the purpose which prompted their adoption, will plead my apology for withdrawing, for a few moments, your Lordship's attention from more urgent cares.

For I cannot suppose, that your Lordship will regard, with indifference, the efforts of Great Britain and the United States, to abolish the African slave trade, or refuse to consider the only mode, in which, experience demonstrates the practicability of doing so ; at the same time, that it discloses the futility of the measures, hitherto devised for that end.

The rejection, by France, of the Quintuple treaty negotiated, in London, fourteen years ago, leaves the British remedy for that atrocious crime, where it stood, anterior to that negotiation ; with the single qualification, of the treaty of Washington, by which, Great Britain and America provided a stipulated force, to guard against the removal of slaves from the Western coast of Africa.

That treaty could not contemplate a similar action, to the north of that continent, nor was it intended to operate along the more extensive Eastern shores visited by the slave trade. Yet, I need not apprise your Lordship, that the slave trade is, still, carried on as well, to the Mediterranean, through Morocco, Tripoli, Nubia, Abyssinia and Egypt, as along the Mozambique channel, opposite to Madagascar, and to the north and south of that Island ; such are the recently augmented profits, as to more than balance the additional cost of a prolonged transportation, to the markets of Cuba, Porto Rico, and Brazil, as well as to the European and Asiatic dominions of Turkey.

It is, equally well known, to your Lordship, that the Governments of our respective countries, differ in their construction of that *law of nations*, which secures immunity to the flag of every country from the right of *search*, or *visit*, in time of peace. So it is regarded, by the Government of the United States, which perceives no distinction, and finds none laid down, either by the British courts of admiralty, or other exponents of international law, or usage, between the rights of *visit*, and of *search*. The American Government considers either right, if there be such a distinction, as appertaining *solely*, to a state of war, and denies to the British squadron, on the African coast, the power to arrest an American slave ship, bearing the American flag.

The correspondence of the two governments, on this very delicate question, manifests a difference of construction, in relation to the right of visit, which has led to controversies of a serious and irritating nature ; that, under less favorable circumstances of forbearance, on both sides, might tend to consequences, fatal to the peace, which now, so happily unites two countries mutually and greatly dependent on each other.

The immediate consequence of this difference of opinion, as regards the treaty of Washington, has been greatly to impair its value, as a restraint upon the slave trade ; and to deny to Africa, the protection, the treaty was designed to afford her. The public attention, in America, has been recently invited, by the Federal Circuit Court of New York, to the revival of the slave trade, by repeated adventures, set on foot, in the chief city of that State.

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The ingenuity of the adventurers has been found to baffle the justice of the United States, and to render important, its severe enactments against the violators of the law. In like manner, the impunity of the slave trader, and the enhancement of his profits, by the great augmentation of the value of his victims, more than trebled, in the last twenty or thirty years, have combined, in various modes, to render nugatory the existing system for the abolition of this abhorrent traffic, proposed by Great Britain and rejected by almost all the neighboring continent.

It is a system which in allowing the violators of its provisions, to choose the tribunal by which they may be tried, as remote from the evidence of their guilt as they might please to select, assures to them absolute impunity, but at the inconvenient cost of removing them and the witnesses to prove their guilt, when practicable, far from the court that condemned their vessels.

The fact is moreover notorious, that so little value is set on the vessels engaged in this trade, that the condemnation and forfeiture of half a dozen of them is repaid by the successful voyage of one: and it is not uncommon for the crew to destroy, on the Cuban coast, their piratical vessel, as soon as its cargo has been landed.

The simplicity of the American proposition for abolishing this crime is therefore recommended by its comprehending the punishment of the criminal as well as the condemnation of his vessel, and that it effects both, through the instrumentality of any court of competent authority, to punish piracy on the high seas.

Nor can it be regarded, by Great Britain and the United States, as a consideration wholly without weight, that to make the slave trade piracy, avoids an acknowledgment of error on the part of either as to the true import of the terms visit and search in time of profound peace.

For all questions, as to the different import of these disputed terms, will, thenceforth cease. The new piracy can be put down, as the old has been, which is now scarcely ever heard of.

Every lawful cruiser, can stop, search, detain and transport; and every government try and punish him. In a few years, such piracy, will be unknown; but, in the records of its past existence. Among the many arguments, in favor of the substitution of this, the American remedy for the African slave trade, there is one that should not be omitted. It is, that the growth of Sierra Leone, a city of sixteen thousand inhabitants; and the yet more remarkable example furnished by the unprecedented rise, progress, and present prosperity of the independent republic of Liberia, under whose mild government, 300,000 people find security and happiness, manifest the facility, with which a lawful, and lucrative commerce, in the fruits of African labor, may be made to supplant the inhuman traffic, now universally forbidden, in the persons of the laborers themselves.

With this view, I had the honor, more than thirty years ago, of introducing into the House of Representatives of the United States, an amendment of a bill from the Senate to make the African slave trade piracy, by statutes; and, shortly after, of submitting to the same House, a resolution, requesting President Monroe to institute negotiations, among the maritime powers of Europe and America to incorporate in the law of nations, a denunciation of that iniquitous traffic, as piracy, by their concurrent assent, so as to render such an interdict of that crime, part of that law, and capable of being enforced by every criminal

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court of competent jurisdiction. There were, in a House of 146 members, but nine votes against this resolution. In 1831, I successfully repeated this motion without hearing a dissentient voice.

America, so often reproached with slavery, that she owes to Europe, has never revoked her denunciation of this trade as piracy, and her unanimous resolution thus utterly to abolish it, in the only practicable mode.

In 1824, the Parliament of Great Britain, and shortly after, the then confederated States, comprising the republic of Columbia, acceded to this proposal of the United States. There, unfortunately for Africa, it has been permitted to rest.

Is not the present period, favorable to its renewal, and to its complete success? Two years have elapsed, since I landed on this continent, a fourth time, in half a century past.

I have traversed Europe, from Naples, to St. Petersburg, and from St. Petersburg returned by Revel to France, which I left, in November last. I heard, nowhere, a voice raised against the American proposition, to make the slave trade piracy, although a fact unknown in America for some time after Count Nesselrode had suggested the idea in presence of his sovereign, at the conferences held at Aix la Chapelle, the protocols of which in 1818, were transmitted to Lord Bathurst by Lord Castlereagh, and the Duke of Wellington, the representatives of Great Britain at these conferences, and published by the order of the House of Commons in 1819. Neither the Russian Minister, nor his sovereign has changed his opinion, on this subject—as the Quintuple treaty bore witness in 1841.

In Italy, I availed myself of the opportunity of memorializing his Holiness, the Pope, on the subject, who favorably received the memorial, and returned to France, at the close of November last, persuaded that, with the assent of her Emperor, the concurrence of the civilized world could be procured to the denunciation as piracy of a traffic, already prohibited, by all Europe, with the solitary exception of Turkey. In passing through Berne, I was assured, through the American resident Minister, by the representative of Sardinia, that he did not doubt the ready acquiescence of his government; and the Quintuple treaty has recorded that of Austria, and Prussia, as well as Russia, though its rejection by France, has destroyed its validity. On the present war in which for the first time, in several centuries, England is united with France, may not reliance be had, to overcome the objections, openly avowed, by the latter in 1817; to any exchange of the right of search. None of these objections, though repeated in 1824, by Count Chateaubriand to Mr. Gallatin, apply to the present relations of France and Great Britain, if indeed, the American proposition, were identical, with that of Great Britain, which France has twice rejected. The war is avowedly waged, for the protection of the Turkish Empire; and the Sultan of Constantinople, having already prohibited, to his subjects, the trade in Circassian slaves, by which they have hitherto filled their harems, cannot refuse to Great Britain and France, contending for the preservation of his Empire, the abolition of a traffic, which tears her children, from the bosom of Africa, to drag them, over the burning sands of the desert of Zaharah, in a mournful journey of more than seventy days, to the Egyptian markets of Cairo and Alexandria.

I have heard it said, that this is not a time to concert, and execute, a great measure; it being, a period of war. War, where? Waged more than a thou-

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sand miles, from the belligerent ally of Turkey, nearest to its present theatre, and rarely mentioned, in the fashionable circles of Parisian society; nor to be discerned, amidst the multiplying embellishments of the capital, and the continued improvements, of the most flourishing country in Europe.

But has war been, at any period of the world, fatal to great achievements in art or science; or to the indulgence of noble and generous conceptions? How seldom, in the history of republican, or of imperial Rome, was the Temple of Janus closed?

When did Greece flourish most? Was it not in the age of Pericles, and amidst the various rich trophies of the Peloponnesian war? It would seem that some atonement, for the calamities of war, is made in the generous sympathies it creates, and fosters, and the noble enterprises, to which, it gives birth.

It is rumored, my Lord, that you are, shortly, to accompany your sovereign to Paris; for which, I shall set out to-day, having left that city, not many days since, to solicit the aid of your government at this critical period, in behalf of an afflicted race.

Would, I could hope, while there, to hear publicly announced, a joint declaration, by France, and Great Britain, that the African slave trade is *piracy*. What pleasure would it impart to the Christian world!—Not alone, to the widely extended Society, which I so unworthily and feebly represent, at the advanced age of very near seventy-three years; but to the whole christian people of the thirty-one United States, in territory, twice exceeding the dominions of imperial Rome; and in population, outnumbering the inhabitants of the British European isles; and all Africa, through its vast domain, exceeding in extent Europe twice repeated. When history shall come, hereafter, to record an event, so glorious, how will the Field of the Cloth of Gold, on which, Francis the First saluted the last Henry of England, pale its lustre, before the light shed upon the world, by a proclamation of peace, freedom, and independence, to a persecuted and blood-stained continent, involving the fate of countless millions of the human race.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that, standing on the verge of a grave, that will shortly swallow up the last of my name, in the State which gave me birth, I can have no personal, or other interest, in the performance of the duty; cast upon me, very long ago, by the most distinguished Society in America, than faithfully to perform it.

I have the honor, my Lord, to subscribe, myself, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

C. F. MERCER.

FOREIGN OFFICE, Sept. 18, 1855.

Sir:

I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th ultimo, and I am to express to you his Lordship's best thanks for that very able and interesting communication.

Lord Clarendon also directs me to state, that he entirely concurs in your views as to the importance of the slave trade being made piracy by all governments; and that his Lordship's best exertions will not be wanting to secure that desirable object.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. HAMMOND.

General Mercer.

The Ship M. C. Stevens.

WE copied into the last number of our Journal much of interest respecting this new vessel. We now beg to call the attention of our readers to a more minute account of her dimensions, style of construction and finish. We also add a wood cut representing her as under sail, and another giving a plan of the main deck and cabin as viewed from above.

Her dimensions in carpenter's measurement are—length 142 feet, extreme breadth 32 feet 10 inches, depth of hold 19 feet—her keel is in two depths of 15 inches each, the frame is moulded 14 inches at the keel and 6½ inches at the head, sided 9 and 10 inches, with cedar and locust top timbers, she has a main keelson and rider keelson, each being 15 by 15 with the addition of a 4 inch capping, making the entire depth from the top of the rider to the bottom of the keel 6 feet and 4 inches of solid work—there is also a sister keelson on each side of the main one, which are each 13 inches square and bolted to floors, futtocks and through the main keelsons—she has 11 bilge keelsons commencing at the floor heads and extending to the lower deck clamps, of which there are 3, measuring 8, 9 and 10 by 14 inches—her lower deck beams are each moulded 16 inches, and well secured by 4 horizontal and 2 vertical knees—her between deck waterways are 15 by 15 inches thick, and the streaks along side are 9 by 14 inches, both being dovetailed over the beams and carlings—her upper deck clamps are 6 inches and extend down to the streak above the waterways—her upper deck beams are moulded 12 inches and secured at the lower ones by 4 horizontal and 2 vertical knees—her upper deck waterways are 13 by 16 inches—the plank sheer is 5½ inches—the bends are 5 inches, diminishing down to 3½ inches which is the thickness of the bottom plank—her frame, ceiling on the floor, outside plank from lower bilge streak up, keelson, sister and rider keelsons, hooks and pointers are all of white oak—the thick work inside, ceiling and clamps and upper deck beams are of yellow pine—she is square fastened throughout.

The capacity of her lower hold is estimated to be about 2500 bbls. besides the space now occupied by her water tanks, the generous gift of Mr. Brune, which are ascertained to hold 8,000 gallons. They are in the after part of the hold and form a complete bulkhead between it and the after-run. The height of her steerage is 7½ feet from deck to deck. It has 19 lengths and 2 heights of berths upon each side, each berth being 4 feet wide, she has also 4 athwartship berths aft, amidships aft 3 lengths and 2 heights of double lengthwise berths, in all 12 berths; just forward of the main hatch there are amidships 2 lengths and 2 heights of double berths—in all 8 berths, making a total of 100 berths each 4 feet in width. The steerage is provided with Emerson's injecting and ejecting ventilators. There are 3 large hatchways affording entrance to it; two of which are intended for constant use and well housed for the purpose. That portion of the steerage which extends under the cabin is lighted by 10 deck lights of 2 feet in length, which are fitted into the upper cabin floor. The entire steerage is neatly painted and varnished.

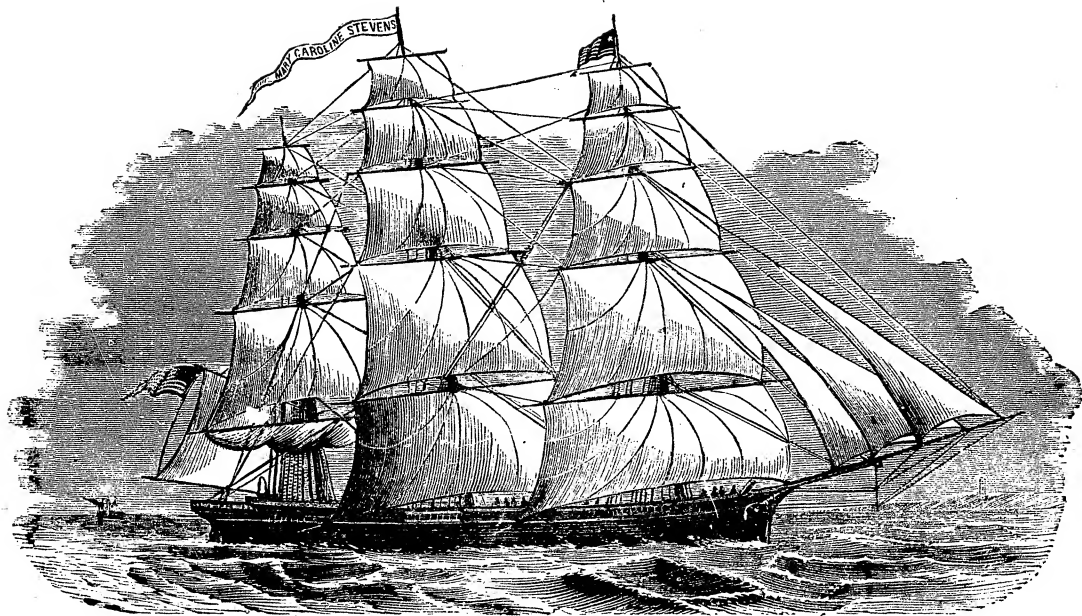
By reference to the plan of the deck and cabin it will be seen that the latter is built in full poop. It is 42 feet long, has 8 state rooms for passengers, each 6 feet square, and containing two berths, washstand and other fixtures. The saloon cabin is furnished with a large bath room and on each side a water closet; by the stairs leading to the poop deck is a small room for the steward. The two state rooms forward of the saloon cabin are for the captain and officers. The pantry is also forward of the saloon and occupies a central space of 8 by 9 feet. The entrance to the saloon cabin from the main deck is by an aisle on each side of the pantry; just within the entrance is a handsome gothic library and medicine case, (presented by Thos. Wilson, Esq.) The mizen mast is encircled by a spring sofa covered with hair cloth. The table is of walnut, 18 feet long, and a permanent fixture, it has sofas on each side, also permanent, with movable backs. The transom sofa is handsomely carved and the seat covered with hair cloth. The state rooms are ventilated by patent side lights and venitian blinds and the saloon by six stern windows and a large sky-light

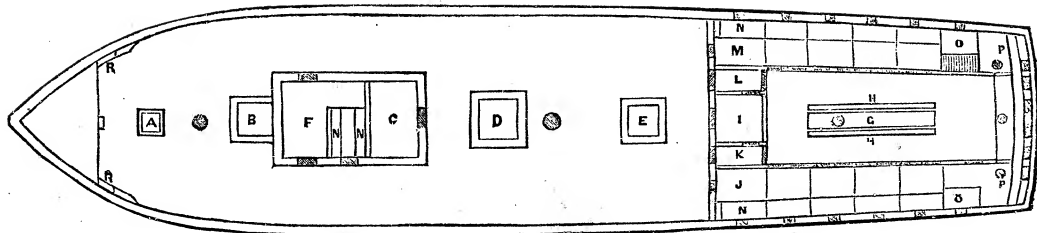
The Mary Caroline Stevens.

opening upon the poop. The painting is in imitation of oak, with an appropriate amount of gilt work. The galley is furnished with one of Taber & Co's No. 0 cooking stoves, and a plain range into which is set two copper boilers, each of 60 gallons capacity, it has also a patent galvanized iron baker sufficiently large to bake at one time 60 pounds of breadstuffs.

Her standing rigging is all of unmixed Russia, she has a patent windlass and one of Paley's double acting chain lifters. Her chains were imported and are corporation tested, are 90 fathoms each and of $1\frac{3}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches; her two bower anchors weigh 5,026 lbs.; her stream anchor 835 lbs. and her kedge 351 lbs.; she has 24 to 28 oz. American copper. All needless ornament on deck and elsewhere has been dispensed with, but on her head is carved a cornucopia with fruit and vines extending from it, and upon her stern is handsomely carved the seal of the American Colonization Society, representing land partially illuminated by the distant rising sun—a ship in the foreground and a dove bearing a scroll with the word "Liberia" written upon it, above is the motto "Lux in Tenebris," and below "American Colonization Society, A. D. 1816."

Her entire cost, including tanks, copper and all her permanent fixtures is forty-three thousand eight hundred dollars. May God preserve her for a noble work.—*Md. Col. Journal.*





A. Forecastle Hatch. B. Forward Companion Way to Steerage. F. Cook's Galley. N. Berths. C. Store Room. D. Main Hatch. E. After Companion Way to Steerage. M. Captain's State Room. L. and K. Aisles leading to Saloon Cabin. I. Pantry. J. Mate's Room. G. Table. H. Sofas. O. Steward's Room and Stairs to Poop Deck. P. and R. Water Closet. Q. Bath Tub.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

"ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called 'The American Colonization Society.'

ART. 2. The object to which its attention is to be exclusively directed is, to promote and execute a plan for colonizing, with their own consent, the free people of color residing in our country, in Africa. or such other place as Congress shall deem expedient. And the Society shall act, to effect this object, in co-operation with the General Government and such of the States as may adopt regulations on the subject.

ART. 3. Every citizen of the United States who shall have paid to the funds of the Society the sum of one dollar, shall be a member of the Society for one year from the time of such payment. Any citizen who shall have paid the sum of thirty dollars, shall be a member for life. And any citizen paying the sum of one thousand dollars, shall be a Director for life. Foreigners may be made members by vote of the Society or of the Directors.

ART. 4. The Society shall meet annually at Washington, on the third Tuesday in January, and at such other times and places as they shall direct. At the annual meeting, a President and Vice Presidents shall be chosen, who shall perform the duties appropriate to those offices.

ART. 5. There shall be a Board of Directors composed of the Directors for life and of Delegates from the several State Societies and societies for the District of Columbia and Territories of the United States. Each of such societies shall be entitled to one Delegate for every five hundred dollars paid into the treasury of this Society within the year previous to the annual meeting.

ART. 6. The Board shall annually appoint one or more Secretaries, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of seven persons; all of whom shall *ex officio* be members of the Board, having a right to be present at its meetings and to take part in the transaction of its business; but they shall not vote, except as provided in Article 7.

ART. 7. The Board of Directors shall meet annually in Washington, immediately after the annual meeting of the Society, and at such other times and places as it shall appoint, or at the request of the Executive Committee, and at the request of any three of the Auxiliary State Societies, communicated to the Corresponding Secretary. Seven Directors shall form a quorum. But, if at any annual meeting, or meeting regularly called, a less number be in attendance, then five members of the Executive Committee, with such Directors, not less than four, as may be present, shall constitute a Board, and have competent authority to transact any business of the Society; provided, however, that the Board thus constituted shall carry no question unless the vote be unanimous.

ART. 8. The Executive Committee shall meet according to its own appointment, or at the call of the Secretary. This Committee shall have discretionary power to transact the business of the Society, subject only to such limitations as are found in its charter, in this Constitution, and in the votes that have been passed, or may hereafter be passed, by the Board of Directors. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the Committee *ex officio*, with the right to deliberate, but not to vote. The Committee is authorized to fill all vacancies in its own body; to appoint a Secretary or Treasurer whenever such offices are vacant; and to appoint and direct such agents as may be necessary for the service of the Society. At every annual meeting, the Committee shall report their doings to the Society, and to the Board of Directors.

ART. 9. This Constitution may be amended, upon a proposition to that effect by any of the Societies represented in the Board of Directors, transmitted to the Secretary, and published in the official paper of the Society, three months before the annual meeting; provided such amendment receive the sanction of two-thirds of the Board at its next annual meeting."

President of the American Colonization Society.

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